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NICE.—15, QUAI MASSÉNA.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—MONDAY.

The LORD CHANCELLOR took his seat on the woolsack at five o'clock.

NORTH BRITISH BORNEO COMPANY.

Lord LAMINGTON gave notice that on Monday, March 6, he would call attention to the Royal charter granted November 8, 1881, to the North British Borneo Company.

On the motion of the LORD CHANCELLOR and the Earl of Redesdale respectively, certain formal alterations were made in the standing orders relating to judicial business and the claims to vote for representative peers in Ireland.

Their lordships rose at twenty minutes past five.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—MONDAY.

The Speaker took the chair at 4 o'clock.

PRINCE LEOPOLD'S MARRIAGE.

Viscount FOLKSTONE gave notice that tomorrow he would ask the First Lord of the Treasury whether in view of the date of his Royal Highness Prince Leopold's marriage being fixed for April 20, he would state on what day the Government intended to make a proposition in Committee of Supply relating to that event. (Hear, hear.)

NEW WARS.

On the motion of Mr. WINN a new writ was ordered to be issued for the election of a member for the borough of Malmesbury in the room of Mr. Walter Powell, deceased.

THE FRENCH COMMUNES.—BREATH.

Mr. SLATER gave notice that on Tuesday he would ask the Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs what was the exact position of this country with regard to the tariff on goods for exportation to France, and also as to the Land Act.

Sir C. DILKE.—I think that it will be convenient if I answer at once the hon. member's question. From communications which have passed since the date of my last reply, I am enabled to state that although the Bill, which awaits only the sanction of the French Senate to-day, does not specifically prolong till May 15th the existing treaty and tariff stipulations with this country, still, as these tariff stipulations are reproduced in the treaties subsequently concluded by France with Belgium, etc., etc., to whom, having signed treaties, their present tariff arrangements are continued till May 15, this country under the most favoured nation clause will enjoy, except on some insignificant articles, the benefit till then of the existing rates. I may add that we have reason to believe that a treaty will probably be signed to-day by Lord Lyons and the French Minister for Foreign Affairs, continuing for ten years the existing stipulations relating to navigation, treatment of subjects, trade marks, etc.

Mr. S. HILL asked whether, after Tuesday next, this country would be under the most favoured nation clause of the Belgian treaty with France.

Sir C. DILKE.—The same as all other countries which have signed new treaties with France, of which Belgium is the most important. Some of the duties will be under other treaties.

Mr. BARRAN asked whether the House was distinctly to understand that the position this country would occupy would be that of the status quo.

Sir C. DILKE.—After Tuesday and up to the 15th of May the position will be that of the status quo, with the exception of one article in which there is no trade.

THE CHANNEL TUNNEL.

Mr. CHAMBERLAIN, in answer to Sir A. Gordon, said the promised War Office Committee had been appointed to consider military engineering and chemical questions involved in the process of making the tunnel useless to an enemy in the event of war. When the report was received the wider military considerations would have to be considered before the Government were in a position to advise the House. With regard to another question, there were two Acts of Parliament. The Act of 1875 conferred on the Channel Tunnel Company the power that no experimental operations should be commenced without the previous consent in writing of the Board of Trade; operations had not been commenced at that time; their compulsory power had lapsed, and they were now before the House to resume.

Sir H. HOLLAND supported the previous question and maintained that inquiry was justified by the circumstances under which the Act was passed.

Mr. B. BRAND argued that inquiry at the present moment was impossible, as sufficient data did not exist on which to form a conclusion.

Mr. A. BALFOUR, on the other hand, thought that if the inquiry was to be of any use it must be immediate. A *prima facie* case for inquiry was made out by the admitted dilemma in which the Government was placed—either that they had misled the House as to the state of Ireland or that the Act was being worked contrary to their expectations; and the opposition of the Committee to inquiry could only be explained by motives which would not bear stating openly.

Mr. GIVAS assured the House that if the action of the Lords were not corrected by some counterbalancing declaration, the difficulties of the Irish Executive would be greatly increased.

Sir W. BARTTELOT blamed the Prime Minister for provoking a collision between the two Houses as a means of rallying his party and getting a cry for the country, and predicted that the debate would be far more damaging to Ireland than the Lords' Committee.

Mr. LEIGHTON supported the previous question, believing that inquiry into the Land Act was necessary; and the discussion was continued on the Opposition side by Mr. S. Hill, Captain Aylmer, and Mr. Alderman Fowler.

On the motion of Mr. SEXTON the debate was adjourned until Thursday.

Some other business was disposed of and the House adjourned at a quarter-past 2 o'clock.

and Mr. Sexton both predicted that the debate which Mr. Gladstone was opening would form a most exhaustive and complete examination of the operation of the Land Act. After some observations from Mr. Warton, the House decided to postpone the Orders of the day by 30 minutes, 107, and the rest was received with prolonged cheers from the ministerial benches.

Mr. GLADSTONE then proceeded to move his resolution that parliamentary inquiry at the present time into the working of the Land Act to defeat its operation, and must be injurious to the interests of good government in Ireland. Replying first to the objection that it was a vote of censure on the House of Lords, he pointed out that contradictory declarations of the two Houses had been frequent in our history. Of this he mentioned several precedents, laying, however, the chief stress on Lord Ebrington's motion in 1831 on the rejection of the Reform Bill by the Lords. He disclaimed, therefore, altogether the suggestion that he desired to censure the other House, but appealed to the House of Commons to make a declaration of the highest political importance. Dilating on the importance of the Land Act, he dwelt in forcible language on the trying crisis with which the Government found itself face to face in October last, pointing out that there were then only two forces in Ireland—the Land League and the Land Act. Calling the House to witness to his offer for a compromise had been accepted, he pointed out that the Lord's Committee must inquire into the judicial proceedings of the Land Court, they must summon before them a number of judicial agents by whom the Act was administered, and they must examine these as to the motives by which their judgments had been guided. But Parliament, in the Land Act, had deliberately provided that none of the questions arising before the Commissioners should be vitally impaired if they had reason to believe that the House of Commons would countenance any tampering with the Act. The whole Northern population in Ireland—the strength of the English garrison, as it was called—would be ready to go against us to a man if they were allowed to believe that the Land Act was to be undermined. It was to the Land Act that the Government looked for the restoration of order and good government in Ireland, and its efficient administration in Ireland. The right hon. gentleman complained of the very unusual way in which the Opposition had given notice with reference to his motion for the orders of the day to be set aside for this occasion. After referring to one or two precedents he contended that it was a most improper course for the Opposition to have taken, as they ought to have permitted the Government to have laid their case before the House.

Mr. GIVAS spoke in support of Mr. Gladstone's line of policy as did Mr. Mitchell Henry. The latter was followed by Dr. Lyons, Mr. Goschen, and Mr. Whitbread, the remarks of all the gentlemen taking the same line, and unanimously supporting the Premier in the position he had adopted. The sitting, which lasted nearly three-quarters of an hour, was throughout of a most enthusiastic character.

Rogers, Mr. Childers, Messrs. H. Shield, H. Richard, W. Rathbone, W. H. Wills, J. Howard, P. S. Milner, Lord Richard Grosvenor, Lord Kensington, Mr. Mundella, Mr. W. E. Forster (who was cheered), Mr. J. K. Cross, Hon. R. Carew, Mr. A. M. Arthur, Mr. W. M. Arthur, Mr. Hibbert, Mr. Tenpenny, Mr. Pender, Mr. G. Howard, Mr. L. Courtenay, Mr. J. Slagg, Mr. Norwood, Col. Gourley, Sir E. Coblebrooke, Sir Wm. Harcourt, the Marquess of Hartington (who was received with loud cheers from the assembled crowd). The noble lord was immediately followed by Mr. Chamberlain (the crowd greeting him with mingled cheers and hooting), Mr. Ashton Dilke, the Solicitor General for Scotland, and Mr. Pease. The arrival of Mr. Bright was the signal for considerable groaning and a few cheers. Next in order followed Sir C. Forster, Mr. Dodson, Mr. Passmore Edwards. Mr. Fawcett received a round of cheers, as did Mr. Goschen and Mr. Herbert Gladstone. Then came Mr. Trevelyan, Sir J. C. Lawrence, Sir G. Campbell, Sir Henry James, Mr. Torrens, Dr. Lyon Playfair, and many others. The meeting was held in the dining-hall, which was filled to overflowing.

Mr. Gladstone, amid cheers, said that it was quite natural to suppose that he had called the meeting together for any purpose of consolidating the Party, as it was never in such an excellent position as at the present time—(cheers)—but he wished to explain the grounds on which the Cabinet had taken the steps which they had done. He specially wished to state that while they were prepared to make certain concessions to the inquiry by the Lords Committee, they must expect that portion which would have any effect upon the judicial performance of the duties of the Commissioners under the Land Act. To do this would be fatal to any chance they had of pacifying Ireland, for doing which the Land Bill was the only weapon. Under the circumstances, he must, of course, proceed to the Resolution of which he had given notice, as nothing could be done to be done to impair the authority of the Land Act and its efficient administration in Ireland. The right hon. gentleman complained of the very unusual way in which the Opposition had given notice with reference to his motion for the orders of the day to be set aside for this occasion. After referring to one or two precedents he contended that it was a most improper course for the Opposition to have taken, as they ought to have permitted the Government to have laid their case before the House.

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THE HERZEGOVINA REVOLT.

The Ragusa correspondent of the *Manchester Guardian*, telegraphing by way of London, says that he has had an interview with some of the leading insurgent commanders "in a rocky stronghold on the Herzegovinian border."

Stojan Kovachevich told me that great confidence prevailed at the Herzegovinian headquarters, and he confirmed news of the capture of Ustikolina and a station near Tuantza. He vehemently affirmed the truth of a great insurgent success at Potica. He stated as a positive fact that many Austrian soldiers had been taken prisoners, and between 500 and 600 rifles captured. A small body of soldiers had barricaded themselves in a church, and the insurgents wished to knock in the walls with dynamite, but the inhabitants begged them to spare it, so it had been decided to starve out the soldiers. The total number of insurgents in the field he estimated at over 5,000. The revolt, he said, was certainly spreading, and the insurgents could increase their numbers many times over if they only had more arms and ammunition. He denied that they were receiving arms from Montenegro.

In another telegram the correspondent says—*Marshal Novomosch has seized a public occasion to make an important statement to some leading Ragusan citizens.* "I wish," he said, "to go to work in a conciliatory spirit." I informed the Emperor himself that in a Slav I could not undertake my charge in a sense inimical to the Slavs and the revolt must first be put down with a strong hand. Henceforth, I intend to consider no terms until the insurgents have been condignly punished. Only when armed resistance has been crushed out I promise large concessions will be made. At the time of the occupation I advocated a more national administration for the provinces, but my advice was not then accepted."

COURT AND FASHIONABLE NEWS.

WINDSOR CASTLE, MONDAY.

The Queen drove out yesterday afternoon, attended by the Dowager Duchess of Roxburghe and the Hon. Harriet Phipps, and her Majesty walked and drove this morning, attended by the Hon. Horatia Stopford, Princess Beatrice, Prince Leopold, and Princess Helen of Waldeck, attended by Mlle. Norelle, and Very Rev. the Dean of Windsor and the Hon. Mrs. Wellesley had the honour of dining with the Queen and the Royal Family yesterday.

The Queen held a Council to-day at one o'clock, at which were present the Duke of Connaught and the Earl of Derby, K.G., Earl Spencer, G.C.B., Lord President of the Council, Earl Stanhope, G.C.B., Lord Stewart, the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, First Lord of the Treasury, and the Right Hon. John Bright, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster; at which the sheriffs for England and Wales were pricked by her Majesty.

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MR. GLADSTONE AND THE LORDS.

MEETING OF THE LIBERAL PARTY.

In response to the invitation of Mr. Gladstone, there was a large gathering of the supporters of that gentleman at the official residence of the Prime Minister in Downing-street on Monday. The principal object of the right hon. gentleman in calling the meeting was to obtain the opinion of his supporters as to the course which should be pursued in reference to the recent action of the House of Lords in appointing a Committee to inquire into the Land Act, on which point it was understood that many members of the party differed from their leader. The meeting was called for three o'clock, but an hour before that time a considerable number of people had gathered in the street to watch the arrival. The first member to arrive was Mr. Corbett, who reached the door by a back staircase, followed by Dr. Farquharson, Mr. Crum, Mr. W. Fower, and Mr. H. Mackie. Next in order came Mr. E. Briggs, Mr. H. Broadhurst, Mr. S. Sergeant, Mr. A. Arnold, Mr. J. H. Henderson, Mr. P. H. Munro, Mr. S. Morley, Messrs. H. Lee, Sir W. Lawson, Dr. Cameron, Sir Donald Currie, Messrs. Jacob Bright and R. W. Duff, Sir M. Wilson, Messrs. J. D. Jenkins, J. B. Firth, Storey, Briggs, Lord Lympstone, Professor T.

The Prince of Wales presided at a meeting which was held at Willis's Rooms on Monday morning in connection with the proposed International Fisheries Exhibition of 1883. The Earl of Roden has left town for France.

The Earl of Carnarvon has returned to England after a stay of several months in the south of France.

The Earl of Wilton continues in a very critical state, which causes the greatest anxiety to his family. On Monday morning the bulletin stated that "Lord Wilton was in a very exhausted state all yesterday, but

and his symptoms are decidedly more favourable this morning." Sir Henry and Lady Alice Des Voeux left Melton Mowbray on Saturday on their return to their town residence, Lady De Ros and Lady Katherine Coke paid visits to Egerton Lodge last week.

Viscount Gage and Hon. Mrs. Gage have arrived at Claridge's Hotel from Fawsley, Daventry.

Lord Norton, who has been suffering for some time, underwent on Sunday last a severe but perfectly successful operation and is now making satisfactory progress.

A telegram received on Monday from Athens announces the serious illness of Lord Houghton. His lordship, who is the guest of Mr. Ford, the British Minister, is suffering from a severe chill, accompanied by complications which cause considerable alarm.

The marriage of Mr. F. Astley, Scots Guards, eldest son of Sir John Astley, with Lady Gertrude Pelham, sister of the Earl of Yarborough, is arranged to take place in the first week in June.

SHIERRIFFS FOR 1882.

A Supplement to the *London Gazette* gives the following list of Sheriffs for the year 1882 appointed by her Majesty in Monday's Council:

ENGLAND (EXCEPTING CORNWALL, LANCASHIRE, AND MIDDLESEX).

BEDFORDSHIRE.—Francis Bassett, of the Heath, Leighton Buzzard, Esq.

BERKSHIRE.—Colonel William Gray, of Farley-hall, near Reading.

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.—John Edward Bartlett, of Peperell-court, Aylesbury, Esq.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND HUNTINGDONSHIRE.—Eberhard Bird Foster, of Astley-hall, Trumpington, Esq.

CHESTER.—Ezerton Leigh, of West-hall, High Leigh, Knutsford, Esq.

CUMBERLAND.—George Routledge, of Stonehouse, Esq.

DURHAM.—Charles Edmund Newton, of the Manor-house, Mickleton, Esq.

DEVONSHIRE.—William Halliday Halliday, of Glastonbury, Lynmouth, Esq.

DORSETSHIRE.—Charles Joseph Theophilus Hamblin, of Milborne, Blandford, Esq.

DORSETSHIRE.—Anthony Burrell, of Fairthorne Park, Hertford, Esq.

KENT.—Lieut.-Colonel Henry Dorrien Streatham, of Chiddingstone, Edenbridge.

LEICESTERSHIRE.—Sir Francis Fortescue Turville, of Houghton, Bosworth, K.C.M.G.

LINCOLNSHIRE.—William Henry Smith, of South Elkington, Esq.

MONMOUTHSHIRE.—Thomas Phillips Price, of Triley-court, Abergavenny, Esq.

NORFOLK.—Sir Henry George Bedingfeld, of Oxfordshire.—John Fairfax Jesse, of Caepriford, Esq.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.—Richard Henry Ainsworth, of Wirksworth Warren, Rushy,

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Great Britain.

LONDON, FEBRUARY 27—28, 1882.

POLITICS IN EASTERN EUROPE.

With reference to the Skobeleff incident the *Standard* observes:—It has occasioned surprise in some quarters that Prince Bismarck should have taken this matter so quietly. It is probable that private communications have been addressed by the German Foreign Office to the Government of St. Petersburg; but it is abundantly evident that the German Chancellor has no desire to magnify the proportions or the importance of the incident. Those who best understand the policy of Prince Bismarck, would have been surprised had he acted otherwise. His policy remains what it has been ever since the Treaty of Berlin, the policy of peace, and he adopts this policy because he believes that under its shelter and protection the particular projects he seeks to promote will be best furthered. The allied Empire of Austria-Hungary has a weighty task upon its hands; a task undertaken at the instance of Prince Bismarck under cover of the Treaty of Berlin. No one can say whether he foresees that the occupation of Bosnia and Herzegovina would cause Austria so much difficulty, but nothing can be more certain than that it is regarded by Prince Bismarck as of the utmost importance that Austria should finish the undertaking without hindrance from without. To keep the rest of the world quiet while the Austrian Government establishes itself thoroughly in the occupied provinces, such is the pivot of the policy of Prince Bismarck at the present moment. It explains the effusiveness of the German Mission sent to Constantinople, and it accounts for the forbearance which the Prince continues to exhibit towards Russia, despite no little provocation. If he wanted, as many people have believed, to pick a quarrel with Russia, the opportunity for doing so has been given him over and over again. He prefers to ignore these non-official explosions of Slav impatience, and to affect to perceive only the protestations of the Russian Government that it disapproves them. None can know better than the Prince that the time will probably come when these protestations will cease, and when a perplexed Monarch will throw in his lot with the fire-eating agitators of Moscow. But it is better that that moment should be deferred until Austria is thoroughly well planted on the flank of any future Slavonic movement. This is the policy which General Skobeleff clearly appreciates, and which has wrung from him those outbursts of vexation that have given him more celebrity even than the triumphs of his sword. He would strike before it is too late. At St. Petersburg the belief prevails, on the contrary, that it is already either too late or too early. It is through these vacillating moods of the Russian Government that Prince Bismarck continues his diplomatic triumphs. With one hand he keeps Russia back; with the other he urges Austria forward. How long will this singular condition of affairs last? The question is one of the utmost interest; for, from the moment the influence exercised by Prince Bismarck over the policy of the Russian Government ceases, the Eastern Question will be reopened, and will demand its final solution. People are too much in the habit of looking at the German and Austrian armies on the one hand, and the Russian army on the other, and concluding that the self-evident inequality of the combatants will prevent the combat. But they lose sight of the fact that, in unfurling the flag of Panslavism, the Czar would call into the field the host of allies, none of whom, perhaps, would be formidable singly, but which by their number and multiplicity would play no inconsiderable part in the struggle. Austria might conceivably be harassed to death by the combined attacks of the various Slav communities of which she is composed and by which she is surrounded. General Skobeleff has explained that he and his friends do not look to the Czar to form one huge Slav Empire, but rather to be the head of a number of Slav communities which would be freed from all but Slav influence. We may see, by the difficulties Austria is encountering in Bosnia and Herzegovina, how disheartening is warfare when carried on against irregular combatants. At the same time, it is probable that, as the phrase is, the struggle could be localised, Austria would prevail over these irregular forces, while the German Army would defeat the Russian Army with innumerable more ease than it did a few years ago the Army of France. Such are the considerations which the Russian Government has to entertain, while coqueting with or even tolerating the Slavonic menace to its neighbours. Were the Czar absolute master of his own subjects, in fact as he is in theory, we cannot doubt which course he would select. Unfortunately, he rules over a disorganised and demoralised nation, and he has nothing to offer in response to their impatient demands but a fresh bout of foreign adventure. Prince Bismarck labours to persuade him that to quarrel with Germany will be to deliver himself up to the Nihilists, and there seems substance in the reminder. But what can the Czar do? He has recalled Skobeleff; but he cannot alter facts or change the General's aspirations. It is said that a great ovation awaits the traveller at Moscow. He has uttered words which will not be forgotten, because, however reckless they may have been, they represent an unalterable truth.—*Standard*.

A POSSIBLE REVOLUTION.

It is a trite observation that no political combination of the fifteenth century so profoundly influences the life of the present generation as the mechanical combination of type in Gutenberg's printing-press. The making of gunpowder, the invention of the compass, and the construction of the steam-engine are all familiar illustrations of the extent to which the inventor has revolutionised the world. Even in a purely political sense, it may be asserted that Watt was more powerful than Pitt, and the share of Arkwright in enabling England to resist and ultimately to overcome the power of Napoleon was hardly less important, although much less conspicuous, than that of Wellington. The discovery of the extent to which two parallel rails of iron could expedite loco-

motion, in Dr. Arnold's opinion, gave the deathstroke to feudalism; and no one can as yet compute the extent to which it has contributed to remodel the social system of the civilized world. Not even Stephen, as he stood by the cradle of the locomotive, fully realised the revolutionary agent he was letting loose upon mankind; and the most sanguine believers in the future development of electricity can hardly be expected to understand the extent to which the utilisation of this force may affect the settled order of the State. All great discoverers are great revolutionaries; or, rather, it may be said that all great discoveries contain within themselves the germs of many revolutions. At present the application of electricity is only in its infancy; but already any one who is familiar with the dissolvent action of the steam engine on the old order which existed a century since can understand that the dynamo machine and the storage battery may yet effect a very unexpected transformation of the social organization, and modify or even destroy the existing balance of political forces. The political and social significance of recent discoveries in the application of electricity is increased by the disappearance of the old unreasoning conservatism which fifty years ago formed so great an obstacle to the development of the railway system. The leader of the Conservative party is to-day driving piles in the river Lea by electricity generated by the water-wheel, that to-night will light up the electric lamps which illuminate Hatfield Hall. Not only has the old prejudice against new-fangled inventions disappeared, but information is disseminated with a rapidity before unknown. Electricity, therefore, has far fewer obstacles to overcome than those that steam has vanquished; and, if as most probable, it is destined to bring about great changes, they will be brought about with a rapidity partaking somewhat of its own character. Last week M. Depré succeeded in transmitting power by means of electricity through resistance representing fifty miles of ordinary telegraph wire. Hitherto it has been impossible to transmit six or eight horse power for ploughing or other heavy work more than two or three miles. This is but an illustration of the development of the new force. It enables us to conceive the possibility—to take only one illustration—of substituting a stout cable for all the waggons and steamers employed in carrying coals from the pits to the manufacturing centres where it is required for working machinery. But that is only a detail, and a comparatively small detail, of the change it foresees. Together with the discovery of the practicability of storing electrical energy to any extent, it opens up a vista of industrial revolution before which the boldest will hold his breath. It renders possible the storage for future use of the fiftieth and tremendous forces of Nature which at present run to waste. The wind, the waterfall among the mountains, and the tide on the shore, by the simple agency of the dynamo machine and the storage battery, may in a few years compete with the steam-engine in its own field. Sir William Armstrong has long lit up his picture-gallery at Rothbury by the aid of a little mountain rivulet; and Godalming has shown that a town may be lighted by the river on which it stands. "A tenth part of the tidal energy in the valley of the Severn," says Professor Sylvanus Thompson, "would light every city, and another tenth would turn every loom, spindle, and axle in Great Britain." In Ireland and in Scotland, in Wales, and in some of the hilly districts in England, mountain torrents generate force which, if stored and used would enable us to dispense with coal for all purposes except for heat; and even heat may yet be laid into our houses by wire as easily as light and force. If such a prospect is realised, the whole distribution of population in Great Britain and Ireland may be altered, and electricity may far outdo the exploits of the railway in "setting towns a-dancing" all over Britain.—*Pall Mall Gazette*.

POLITICAL AND SOCIAL ITEMS.

(FROM THE "STANDARD.")

In explanation of the numbers of the division on Mr. Gladstone's motion to postpone the division of the Day, it should be known that the Conservative Leaders did not desire to take a division. The Irish members insisted, however, that the House should divide, and a good many Conservatives left the House without voting.

At a meeting of the Irish members on Tuesday it was decided to support Sir S. Northcote in opposing the postponement of the Day. Of course, for the purpose of enabling Mr. Gladstone to move his motion regarding the action of the House of Lords. No division was taken as the course of the Irish Party on the main question; but it is understood they will support Mr. Sexton's amendment.

(FROM THE "DAILY NEWS.")

In the unnatural ill-humour prevalent in the Conservative ranks in view of the occurrences of Monday night there was some disposition to complain of the nomination by the Speaker of the "tellers" in the division. Sir Stafford Northcote having given notice to meet the motion by a negative, the official tellers of the Opposition were looked for. The fact is, however, that the Speaker acted upon an intimation conveyed to him from the front bench that the Opposition tellers would not act. In these circumstances the right hon. gentleman took the unusual course of calling tellers among the body of members who had not challenged the division, who in this case were the Irish Leaguers.

Mr. Sexton has fixed the 13th of March as the day on which he proposes to have a division of the House. There is, it need hardly be said, not the slightest chance of such a motion being carried.

Though the debate on the Procedure rules has momentarily disappeared in the background, the interest excited by it among members of the House of Commons has not diminished. Up to Monday night not less than 65 amendments had been handed in.

The demand for places in the Strangers' Gallery of the House of Commons on Monday afternoon was almost unprecedented. The large hall in which the ballot for seats takes place was crowded with persons who had obtained orders from members, but only a small portion of those who attended were able to secure admission to the gallery.

An official committee has been reformed that the Prince of Wales will be present at the Easter Monday Volunteer Review. The Duke of Connaught and other members of the Royal Family have also promised to attend.

Although we believe that at one time Mr. Kirby Green was of opinion that a newspaper correspondent had been murdered in Albania, yet further inquiry has led to the conclusion that the rumour was without foundation. The story of the murder is now said to have been invented in order to keep correspondents out of the country.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—MONDAY.

The Lord CHANCELLOR took his seat on the woolsack at five o'clock.

NORTH BRITISH BORNEO COMPANY.

Lord LAMINGTON gave notice that on Monday, March 6, he would call attention to the Royal charter granted November 8, 1881, to the North British Borneo Company.

On the motion of the Lord CHANCELLOR and the Earl of Redesdale respectively, certain formal alterations were made in the standing orders relating to judicial business and the claims to vote for representative peers in Ireland.

Their lordships rose at twenty minutes past five.

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PRINCE LEOPOLD'S MARRIAGE.

Viscount FOLKESTONE gave notice that tomorrow he would ask the First Lord of the Treasury whether in view of the date of his Royal Highness Prince Leopold's marriage being fixed for April 20, he would state on what day the Government intended to make a proposition in Committee of Supply in relation to the same.

NEW WART.

On the motion of Mr. WINTON a new writ was ordered to be issued for the election of a member for the borough of Newbury in the name of Mr. Walter Povey, deceased.

THE FRENCH COMMERCIAL TREATY.

Mr. SLADE gave notice that on Tuesday he would ask the Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs what was the exact position of this country with regard to the tariff on goods for exportation to France, and also as to the navigation law.

Sir C. DILKE.—I think that it will be convenient if I answer at once the hon. member's question. From communications which have passed since the date of my last reply, I am enabled to state that although the Bill, which awaits only the sanction of the French Senate and does not specifically provide till May 15th for the existing tariff arrangements with this country, still, as the tariff stipulations are reproduced in the treaties subsequently concluded by France with Belgium, etc., to whom, having signed treaties, their present tariff arrangements are continued till May 15, this country under the most favoured nation clause will enjoy, except on some insignificant articles, the benefit till May 15th of the existing tariff arrangements with France.

Sir C. DILKE.—The same as all other countries which have signed new treaties with France, of which Belgium is the most important. Some of the duties will be under other treaties.

Mr. BARAN asked whether the House was distinctly to understand that the position this country would occupy would be that of the status quo.

Sir C. DILKE.—After Tuesday and up to the 15th of May the position will be that of the status quo, with the exception of one article in which there is no trade.

THE CHANNEL TUNNEL.

Mr. CHAMBERLAIN, in answer to Sir A. Gordon, said the promised War Office Committee had been appointed to consider military engineering and chemical questions involved in the process of making the tunnel necessary to an enemy in the event of war. When the report was received the wider military considerations could have been considered before the Government were in a position to advise the House. With regard to another question, there were two Acts of Parliament. The Act of 1875 conferred on the Channel Tunnel Company the provision that no experimental operations should be commenced without the previous consent in writing of the Board of Trade; operations had not been commenced by that company; their compulsory powers had lapsed, and they were now before the House to resume. The Act of 1881 was a private Act of the South-Eastern Railway Company, and contained a provision that the Board of Trade should not interfere except as the foremost on that point in the valley of the Severn," says Professor Sylvanus Thompson.

"A tenth part of the tidal energy in the valley of the Severn," says Professor Sylvanus Thompson, "would light every city, and another tenth would turn every loom, spindle, and axle in Great Britain." In Ireland and in Scotland, in Wales, and in some of the hilly districts in England, mountain torrents generate force which, if stored and used would enable us to dispense with coal for all purposes except for heat; and even heat may yet be laid into our houses by wire as easily as light and force. If such a prospect is realised, the whole distribution of population in Great Britain and Ireland may be altered, and electricity may far outdo the exploits of the railway in "setting towns a-dancing" all over Britain.—*Pall Mall Gazette*.

THE ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS.

Mr. CECIL, asked for the names of the Scientific Committee.

Mr. CHILDERL said the Council would consist of three Royal Engineers, two artillers, two civil engineers, gentlemen of great eminence in connection with explosives, under the chairmanship of Sir Archibald Alison.

Lord E. CECIL said he would ask for the names of the tellers.

THE ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS.

Mr. LEPEVRE, in answer to Dr. Lyons, who asked on what conditions the Royal Zoological Society held their grounds in the Regent's-park, said the Zoological Society held 26 acres of land from the Office of Woods at a yearly rental of £270.

THE LORDS AND THE LAND ACT.

Mr. GLADSTONE, in moving, pursuant to notice, that the Orders of the Day be postponed until after his motion on the Land Act, while reserving a defence of the motion until his reply, if necessary, remarked that the Government were fully sensible of the inconvenience of their proposal, and that if even at that moment they could be assured that the inquiry of the Lords would not be extended to the judicial administration of the Land Court they would waive their other objections to the committee.

Sir W. NORTHCOTE admitted that it was unusual to oppose such a motion as this, but he urged that the House had a right to demand from the Prime Minister some explanation of the reasons why he proposed to put aside a measure which he had himself declared urgent.

Mr. NORTHCOTE intimated just thrown out rendered necessary, indeed, as nothing could happen in the House of Lords, with the result with Mr. Gladstone had declared he would be satisfied.

The persons who composed the committee were men of patriotism who would not be deaf to any appeal which might be made to them, and he put it, therefore, to the Government whether it was worth while proceeding at this time.

Mr. LEIGHTON supported the previous question, believing that inquiry into the Land Act was necessary; and the discussion was continued on the Opposition side by Mr. S. Hill, Captain Aylmer, and Mr. Alderman Fowler.

On the motion of Mr. SEXTON the debate was adjourned until Thursday.

Some other business was disposed of and the House adjourned at a quarter-past 2 o'clock.

and Mr. Sexton both predicted that the debate which Mr. Gladstone was opening would form a most exhaustive and complete examination of the operation of the Land Act. After some observations from Mr. Warton, the House decided to postpone the Orders of the day to 300 to 167, and the result was received with prolonged cheers from the ministerial benches.

Mr. GLADSTONE then proceeded to move his resolution that the parliamentary inquiry at the present time into the working of the Land Act should be discontinued, and must be injurious to the interests of good government in Ireland. Replying first to the objection that it was a vote of censure on the House of Lords, he pointed out that contradictory declarations of the two Houses had been frequent in our history. Of this he mentioned several precedents, laying, however, the chief stress on Lord Ebrington's motion in 1831 on the rejection of the Reform Bill by the Lords. He disclaimed, therefore, altogether the suggestion that he desired to censure the other House, but rather to make a declaration of the highest political importance.

Dilating on the importance of the Land Act, he dwelt in forcible language on the trying crisis with which the Government found itself face to face in October last, pointing out that there were then only two forces in Ireland—the Land League and the Land Act. Calling the House to witness that his offer for a compromise had not been accepted, he pointed out that the Lords' Committee must inquire into the judicial proceedings of the Land Court, they must summon before them a number of judicial agents by whom the Act was administered, and they must examine them as to the motives by which they had decided.

Mr. S. H. BELL asked whether, as the Earl of Northcote had done, he had deliberately provided that none of the questions arising before the Commissioners should come before the Lords in their appellate capacity, and it was neither expedient nor tolerable that the relations between landlord and tenant as affected by the Land Court should be overhauled by a promiscuous inquiry of this kind. The confidence of the Irish people would be vitally impaired if they had reason to believe that the House of Commons would countenance any tampering with the Act. The whole Northern population in Ireland—the strength of the English garrison, as it was called—would be ready to go against us to a man, if they were allowed to believe that the Land Act was to be undermined. It was the Land Act that the Government looked for the restoration of law and good government in Ireland, and the Government would not be responsible for anything which could interfere with its working.

Mr. GIBSON asked why the arguments just used by Mr. Gladstone had not been addressed by his colleagues to the other House. Not a syllable about the interference with judicial administration had been mentioned, and all the strong language about the elements of social danger, etc., was mere second thoughts. The precedents cited by the Prime Minister, he maintained, were inapplicable, while Lord Lifford's Committee of 1872 on the first Land Act, which did not in any way hinder or prejudice its working, was a precedent entirely.

It was the opinion of the Earl of Northcote that the members of the Lords' Committee would not recognise the responsibility of conducting the inquiry in such a manner as to inflict no damage on the public interest. There was nothing in the order of reference about judicial administration, and he found it very difficult to believe that Mr. Gladstone himself entertained a fear that the Lords' inquiry would do any harm. There were many points arising out of the unforeseen operation of the Land Act, some of which he indicated, which required investigation, and he contended that in the present muddle of business the mode suggested by Mr. Gladstone of himself entailing a fear that the Lords' inquiry would do any harm. There were many points arising out of the unforeseen operation of the Land Act, some of which he indicated, which required investigation, and he contended that in the present muddle of business the mode suggested by Mr. Gladstone of himself entailing a fear that the Lords' inquiry would do any harm. There were many points arising out of the unforeseen operation of the Land Act, some of which he indicated, which required investigation, and he contended that in the present muddle of business the mode suggested by Mr. Gladstone of himself entailing a fear that the Lords' inquiry would do any harm. There were many points arising out of the unforeseen operation of the Land Act, some of which he indicated, which required investigation, and he contended that in the present muddle of business the mode suggested by Mr. Gladstone of himself entailing a fear that the Lords' inquiry would do any harm. There were many points arising out of the unforeseen operation of the Land Act, some of which he indicated, which required investigation, and he contended that in the present muddle of business the mode suggested by Mr. Gladstone of himself entailing a fear that the Lords' inquiry would do any harm. There were many points arising out of the unforeseen operation of the Land Act, some of which he indicated, which required investigation, and he contended that in the present muddle of business the mode suggested by Mr. Gladstone of himself entailing a fear that the Lords' inquiry would do any harm. There were many points arising out of the unforeseen operation of the Land Act, some of which he indicated, which required investigation, and he contended that in the present muddle of business the mode suggested by Mr. Gladstone of himself entailing a fear that the Lords' inquiry would do any harm. There were many points arising out of the unforeseen operation of the Land Act, some of which he indicated, which required investigation, and he contended that in the present muddle of business the mode suggested by Mr. Gladstone of himself entailing a fear that the Lords' inquiry would do any harm. There were many points arising out of the unforeseen operation of the Land Act, some of which he indicated, which required investigation, and he contended that in the present muddle of business the mode suggested by Mr. Gladstone of himself entailing a fear that the Lords' inquiry would do any harm. There were many points arising out of the unforeseen operation of the Land Act, some of which he indicated, which required investigation, and he contended that in the present muddle of business the mode suggested by Mr. Gladstone of himself entailing a fear that the Lords' inquiry would do any harm. There were many points arising out of the unforeseen operation of the Land Act, some of which he indicated, which required investigation

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Great-Britain.

LONDON, FEB. 28—MARCH 1, 1882.

AUSTRIA AND THE PEACE OF EUROPE.

The telegrams which have lately been reaching us from Vienna show that active operations in Herzegovina have begun in earnest. The Hungarian Diet, after five days' debate, has passed by a large majority the grant of eight millions of florins demanded by the Government; and at the same moment we hear of a general advance into the insurgent country. Four columns of troops started from different points, on the 20th and 21st, with the intention of seizing the Zagorje plateau, which contains the chief strength of the insurrection, and of striking a sudden and probably decisive blow. The weather, which proved as severe as the worst enemies of Austria could have desired, stood in the way of any crowning success, and in the numerous encounters with the insurgents which are reported the latter seem to have made good their retreat. As yet, indeed, everything has happened which have been expected at the opening of the campaign. Both sides have fought well, and though the disciplined Austrian troops have not yet succeeded in breaking up the enemy, they have gradually got hold of the best positions, and may proceed to strike harder at their leisure. Assuming for the moment that no foreign complications arise and that the insurrection continues to be purely local, it may be anticipated that matters will proceed in this way for some little time, till the overwhelming force of the Austrians has made itself completely felt. The insurgents are brave, active, and thoroughly know their own difficult country; but they are not numerous, and they are badly armed. They have nothing with which to match the mountain guns of the Austrians, and many of their bands have no rifles, except the few that have been captured, in the early stages of the revolt, from the small Austrian posts surprised by the insurgents. At the same time, they are not the men to submit easily or at once. Not to speak of their hopes of relief from elsewhere, they are insurgents by inheritance and by tradition. They have a great belief in their own independence; they have developed a passionate hatred of the Austrians, and they have a complete disregard of hardships. It is inevitable that, during the time which must elapse before they are reduced to submission, much blood will be spilt and many of the horrors inseparable from guerrilla warfare will be experienced. The protracted and desperate resistance offered to the Austrian occupation in 1878 is of evil omen in this respect. It is certain, however, that the movement will be crushed, whether it takes days or weeks or even months to crush it, unless it is fostered from outside. This is the danger of which all the world is at this moment acutely conscious; and although in this respect things look somewhat better than they looked ten days ago, it would be idle to pretend that the chances of trouble have entirely disappeared. It is not Mussulman fanaticism, Bulgarian or Turkish, that the chief danger lies. It lies in the direction first of Servia and Montenegro, and next of the Paulsians party throughout the Slavonic lands—especially of course, throughout Russia. The Austrian Government has shown a wise anxiety in the matter of the two neighbouring principalities, and there seems reason to believe that their efforts to keep those States strictly neutral will be successful. General Skobeleff has been officially and officially disowned; he has been recalled to St. Petersburg and ordered to explain himself; and thus far his Government is acquitted of any participation in his warlike speeches. Nor if his indirect object was to stir up strife between France and her old enemy and thus to gain an ally in his anti-German campaign, can be thought to have succeeded. Paris only echoed the opinion of the Grand Duke Constantine in pronouncing the horrors of Plevna mad. Yet, unfortunately, a failure to obtain the active sympathy of Western Europe does not of necessity imply a failure to excite the ignorant and unhappy East. General Skobeleff's words, expressing, as they did, the desire at the bottom of many a Russian mind, have roused the hope that this desire may at no distant day be gratified. It is well that the danger should be realised and faced by those responsible for the direction of affairs in every European country, and not by Government only, but by every person capable of political reflection. It is too evidently the desire and the intention of an active party in Russia to seek the earliest opportunity for violently attacking the Eastern settlement at which all Europe arrived in 1878. The attack is primarily directed against Austria as the oppressor of the Slavs, and against Germany as the too influential mediator in Russian affairs; but, in point of fact, it is the anybody and everybody outside the Russian border that is to feel the weight of Russian discontent. For this is the real reason of the cry of which General Skobeleff has made himself the mouthpiece. Russia is profoundly unhappy. Her great novelist, Ivan Tourguenoff, in the story,

which he has just published in a German magazine, paints a typical Russian in the "Despiser," who gives his name to it—a Russian who despairs of everything, but chiefly of Russia. It is no wonder; for despotism, Nihilism, and the blind race-hatred that has broken out in the persecution of the Jews are phenomena that leave little room for political optimism. The more generous minds in Russian society take refuge from this despair in some theory like that of the Panslavists, and cry out for "liberation from the foreigner," for a union of the Slav race, and for a fresh start on the basis of Slav nationality. But Europe cannot consent to these desperate experiments. She has her own interests to guard, and she takes her stand on the solemn treaties by which those interests have been guaranteed. She demands above all things peace, and a fair trial for the new order of things laid down in 1878. And if it were allowed to her to take a different ground and to plead the interests of Russia herself, she might say with a Russian writer:—"To affirm that the Russian nation is predestined to an idealist policy, to wage periodical wars of sentiment, to wage from time to time the standard of the crusades in the midst of the peaceful and industrial Europe of the 19th century, is to say that Russia is predestined to the hostility of Europe, to disorder, and to ruin."—*Times*.

THE CHANNEL TUNNEL.

The imagination of some persons continues to be exercised on the possible calamities which are to follow the construction of a tunnel under the Channel. —
Particulars of this subject, written very much in the style of old fables and really useful "Battle of Dorking," are beginning to appear, and to secure a considerable amount of attention. If the French, on their side, are only half as imaginative as we are on ours, it will be made quite clear that the tunnel must be one of the most awfully disastrous projects for the nations at either end of it that was ever conceived. Some of us have been accustomed to look upon ourselves as belonging to a stout and warlike race. True, we live in an island, and were thus exempted from some perils by invasion; but we had thought that if fate had placed us on a continent with nothing but a river or a chain of hills to divide us from our neighbours, we should have been in as much danger as if we had been on the mainland. So that the people of Dulwich, Brixton, and New Cross; those of the north, as well as the east—not even excepting the west—were all made available, and initiated into the art of constructing fortifications without any delay. To protest was useless; it was worse, it was dangerous. The man who argued was either disengaged or prodded with a bayonet; he who remained was hanged. So that the work went on apace, and in a very short time London was, inside its boundaries, provided with a better series of fortifications than she had ever before possessed. When space was wanted in front of these works the houses were pulled or blown down; no respect for property or the owners caused the French to hesitate. They had to do the work thoroughly, and they knew it; and with so many labourers as they possessed they had very little so.

"Possibly the worst of all which they suffered was the prospect in the event of a great battle within the suburbs of being compelled to remain under fire and repair the works of their alien defenders as the fight progressed. The probability of this held out to them did not constitute the least of their sorrows, certainly."

THE RUSSIAN TERROR.

The Vienna correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph* wrote on Tuesday night:—
Dr. Schaefer, the special delegate of the Jewish Alliance, who has just been to Brody for the purpose of assisting the Jewish fugitives to return to Russia, arrived in Vienna in the evening without having accomplished his mission. In consequence of information he received while at Brody, he decided at all risks not to send them back to the Austrian frontier, which he ascertained would have been to expose them to certain death. But these 1,300 unfortunate will not be unprovided for. The news has come to-day that £10,000 will be devoted to their emigration to the United States, and, in the meantime, they will be well cared for by the Vienna branch of the Jewish Alliance. The latter has sent them clothing, and their local committee has housed them, and distributes a daily allowance of treepence to each adult and twopence to each child. Dr. Schaefer, who only the other day returned from Palestine, where he had been to accompany a first party of boy emigrants, temporarily abandoned his medical practice in Paris to devote himself to this humane cause. The intelligence that reached him last week at Brody, and made him give up the idea of returning to the return of the fugitives to Russia, made no doubt that a fresh anti-Semitic outbreak must shortly be expected. Next quarter day in South Russia, when disturbances are likely to break out, although in several remote country districts there have been scenes of pillage and violence within the last fortnight. At Odessa 5,000 Jewish families, which implies a total of 20,000 souls, are preparing to quit the country at the first signs of disorder. At Elizabethgrad from 3,000 to 4,000 families are taking similar precautions. It would, therefore, have been cruel to send away the fugitive colony at Brody. The local authorities have no objections to their remaining until arrangements can be made for their departure. Since they have been in Austria there has not been a single instance of misconduct amongst them, and, notwithstanding their destitute condition, there has not been even one case of dishonesty. Perhaps it is this that respect that they differ from their anti-Semitic fellow-countrymen, with whom General Ignatief says they cannot be assimilated. At all events, he is at variance with facts when he says it is in language and costume. That only applies to the Jews on the Galician frontier. At Kieff, Odessa, and other large towns they speak the same dialect and wear the same clothes as their Christian fellow-countrymen, but then General Ignatief does sometimes make coloured statements. Dr. Schaefer brought twenty-eight children with him this morning from Brody. They will probably be adopted by families of their own religion residing in Vienna and the provinces. At my request it was arranged this afternoon that I should see them, and as they were German I had no difficulty in conversing with them. They are all fine, healthy children, varying in age from eight to thirteen. I questioned one of them, a lad of about ten, as to what he had seen. After giving me particulars of the wrecking of his father's wine shop at Kieff, he told me he had witnessed the assassination of four children—three boys and a girl—by a band of drunken ruffians. The manner in which he described the scene and his ready answers to my numerous queries left not the slightest doubt in my mind as to the accuracy of his narrative. Another boy, of about the same age, named Gubanoff, resided with his parents in the Podol quarter of Kieff. From the window of their house, which was pillaged like the rest, he saw Jews and his three children murdered in numbers, and when he described to me as a long iron bar. As the mob had left the neighbourhood he and his father ventured outside to ascertain whether an audience could still be of avail to the four victims. "They were without life," he added, "and father and I could not speak a word, we were so horrified at the sight before us." I interrogated all of his companions who could speak German, and from all of them I learnt the same tale of pillage and wanton outrage. The two former children had witnessed actual murder, and it is only to be apprehended that not one tenth part of the cases of massacre which most undoubtfully did occur will ever be brought to light.

THE FRENCH IN LONDON.

Under the title "How John Bull Lost London," a small volume has been published by Messrs. Sampson Low and Co. The author assumes the *nom de guerre* of "Grip." The work is written on the same lines as the "Battle of Dorking," which attracted so much attention a few years ago. The following extract shows that the little book is amusing, although its pretensions are evidently higher:—

"What London suffered during the period of its occupation will never be fully told. Very naturally, the bulk of the French army occupied certain strategic positions in the suburbs. But a very considerable number of troops were quartered inside the very heart of the metropolis, and did pretty much as they pleased. For two days the metropolis was in absolute disorder. Then the administration of the French officials began. Three acts preceded all others. Every arm and ammunition shop and every householder were deprived of their weapons. All the available provisions of the country were seized, no shopkeeper being allowed to touch more than a certain quantity of the stores in his own shop. And troops were placed in every public building specially available for the purpose."

"The deprivation of firearms was not perhaps a matter of much consequence. It would have been sheer madness on the part of a miserably armed mob of citizens to have attempted any resistance against the overwhelming force of the French armies, and no one much regretted, therefore, the loss of rifles and revolvers. The French, on the other hand, were much pleased to obtain for the asking English-made weapons, which were very much better than anything they had got in their own country. They wore the revolvers taken from English shops with much pride and greatest boast of the acquisitions they had made. Had they confined themselves to the taking of weapons, they would have been little complaint then. But although the French commander, on entering the city, issued a declaration to the effect that no plundering would be permitted, nearly every jeweller's shop had been broken into and emptied within a few hours of the arrival of the troops, and those who went to complain were received with jeers and laughter."

"The worst privation of all, however, from which the unfortunate people who were in the metropolis suffered was that of hunger. An embargo having been laid upon all stores of provisions, it is easy to see how this occurred. At first it was the intention of the French to have issued a full ration to every person without much stint. But as the news of the advance of English armies outside the capital came in and supplies were cut off, the French commander determined to save as much as he could for his men and give out to the people as little as possible. It is a huge city, peopled by millions, and it depended on its supply of provisions upon the ships, trains, and wagons that daily bring in vast stores of comestibles. Once stop this supply, and the actual quantity of food inside the capital would last but a very little while. The French commander saw this, and he determined that the lives of 600,000 Frenchmen were his first care, and he acted accordingly. He would not permit a general exodus; for he looked forward to the capital being able to come to terms with the English. But when he defined the unhappy people in their homes, he gave them only a minimum of food for their support."

"It is needless here to dwell on the result of this policy—a fair policy, perhaps, from a military point of view, but one which brought in its train immense and needless suffering to the people. Well-to-do tradesmen and merchants of Clapham, quiet residents of Brixton, the honest people of Hornsey, Clapton, Stoke Newington, shared with the residents of Bow the fate of a long-careless soldiery who, however, had not been allowed to live in the interior of the city, but in warehouses and in brutal in the quiet and more out-of-the-way places. Happy the householder who did not have four or five ruffians in his house to demand his constant services, and to rate him whenever he came within hearing or sight. Few who were free from this last torture counted themselves as fortunate in the extreme. Still, life was about as bad as it could be supported. The British householder is not used to attend at a district office presided over by a master of the rolls, and there demand in turn a ticket for bread; and perhaps occasionally a little smoked meat, such as bacon or ham, to be honoured purchased in his own shop by soldiers placed in charge. It is new to the London housekeepers to turn out en queue, and wait while the necessities of life were there served out to them; and as they took their turn they cursed from the bottom of their hearts the miserable national blunder which had brought all this suffering upon them. The tunnel, however, had done its work, and to curse it was just then useless.

"And now a new terror set in. The French commander-in-chief determined that all the strategic points of the metropolis should be fortified, and commanded every man in the capital to present himself at a certain specified station with a spade or a pick, ready for labour. The next morning saw the good citizens of Clapham sent out on a working away at the navy's task under the iron superintendence of French engineers, who taught them how to throw up earthworks on the Common, and forty Balham and Tooting, pulling down here and there their own houses for the purpose of obtaining material for barricades when ordered. What transpired at Clapham went on everywhere: the people of Dulwich, Brixton, and New Cross; those of the north, as well as the east—not even excepting the west—were all made available, and initiated into the art of constructing fortifications without any delay. To protest was useless; it was worse, it was dangerous. The man who argued was either disengaged or prodded with a bayonet; he who remained was hanged. So that the work went on apace, and in a very short time London was, inside its boundaries, provided with a better series of fortifications than she had ever before possessed. When space was wanted in front of these works the houses were pulled or blown down; no respect for property or the owners caused the French to hesitate. They had to do the work thoroughly, and they knew it; and with so many labourers as they possessed they had very little so.

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IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—TUESDAY.

SHOP HOURS REGULATION BILL.

Lord STANHOPE moved the second reading of the Shop Hours Regulation Bill, the object of which he described to be to protect women and young persons employed in shops and warehouses who could not protect themselves. There was a precedent for the proposed legislation in the factory regulations respecting women and children. The Bill provided that in shops and warehouses women and young persons should not be employed for more than ten hours a day, unless with permission of the Master of the Workhouse.

The Duke of SOMERSET thought it would be supported by a Select Committee.

Mr. G. LEWIS moved an amendment to the bill.

Mr. E. C. COHEN moved an amendment to the bill.

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NICE—15, QUAI MASSÉNA.

Great Britain.

LONDON, MARCH 2—3, 1882.

THE ATTEMPT TO SHOOT THE QUEEN.

The following detailed account of the attempt on the life of the Queen at Windsor on Thursday is taken from the Standard, whose Windsor correspondent telegraphed on the crime as follows:—

A determined attempt to shoot her Majesty was made upon her arrival at Windsor from London this evening. The Royal train conveying the Queen and Princess Beatrice, General Sir H. Ponsonby, Viscount Bridport, Colonel Sir J. C. McNeill, and the Ladies in Waiting, arrived safely at the Windsor Terminus at 5.25, and a number of the residents assembled on the platform to welcome the Queen upon her return to the Castle. Her Majesty and Princess Beatrice had a most enthusiastic reception, and were loudly cheered as the carriage, drawn by a pair of grey ponies, left the station. Just as the Royal carriage was about to pass through the gates of the station yard on its way to the Palace, a man who was standing in the road pointed a revolver at the Queen and Princess Beatrice, and deliberately fired just as the cheers were subsiding, the report being distinctly heard throughout the terminus. Superintendent Hayes, of the Borough Police; Inspector Fraser, Sergeant Jackson, and Police-constable Alexander were close at hand, and the man was arrested in a moment, before he could fire again.

There was a general rush towards the man who fired. Colonel Sir J. C. McNeill, General Sir H. Ponsonby, and Viscount Bridport, who at the time were waiting to enter their carriage, ran to the vicinity of the Queen's equipage, when it was ascertained that her Majesty had received no injury, the shot from the assassin's revolver having missed its aim owing to the vehicle being driven rapidly out of the yard. Her Majesty and the Princess continued their progress to the Palace, followed by the ladies of the suite in the remainder of the carriages. While the Royal party were on their way thither, the man who fired the pistol was placed in a cab for conveyance to the police-station. This was not accomplished without some difficulty, owing to the indigation of the crowd in Thames-street. The prisoner was driven rapidly through High-street and Sheet-street to the Borough Police-station, where, in the presence of the Justices, he was at once charged by Mr. Superintendent Hayes.

The prisoner, who is 27 years of age, and gave the name of Roderick Maclean, is of medium height and slim build. He is poorly clad, apparently in reduced circumstances, and states that he is a grocer's assistant. He says that he walked from Portsmouth to Windsor, where he has been staying for a week. The Mayor of Windsor (Mr. Joseph Devereux), Mr. H. Darville (Town Clerk), General Sir H. Ponsonby, Viscount Bridport, and Colonel Sir J. C. McNeill were present in the charge-room while the prisoner was being searched.

Later on the prisoner was examined in the cell by Dr. Holderness, who pronounced him sane. After he had been searched by Inspector Fraser and Chief Superintendent Hayes, the weapon, a medium-sized six-chambered Colt's revolver, of American make, was examined. It was found that two of the chambers still remained loaded, and two had been recently discharged, while the other two were empty. A package containing fourteen ball cartridges, several papers and valueless articles, were also discovered upon Maclean, who said he should make no defence, but should reserve what he had to say till his examination.

Maclean declared that hunger had driven him to the crime; he is certainly very wretchedly attired. This scarcely seems to coincide with his being in possession of such a weapon as the revolver, which is almost new. It seems that Maclean, when he tried to shoot the Queen, was slightly in advance of the Royal carriage, and fired the revolver as it was approaching him. His action was perceived by the Princess Beatrice, who must have been alarmed. Maclean is believed to be a Scotchman or Irishman.

It appears that while Chief Superintendent Hayes was near the wicket-gate of the station-yard he saw the prisoner, who was standing midway between the entrance and the waiting-room, suddenly raise his right hand and take careful aim at the Queen's carriage, and fire deliberately at those in the equipage—the Queen, Princess Beatrice, and a Lady in Waiting. Dashing upon Maclean, Superintendent Hayes seized him by the neck, causing the man to drop the revolver in the roadway, whence it was picked up by James Barnesfield. Inspector Fraser, of the Royal Household Police, who was always in attendance upon her Majesty, ran up at the same moment, and assisted in the capture of the prisoner.

When Maclean was seized he exclaimed, "Don't hurt me." Mr. Fraser replied, "Certainly not," and the Prisoner then observed, "I have done it through starvation." The prisoner when arrested was followed by crowds of people to the station, and throughout the evening groups of residents have collected in the streets commenting upon the alarming occurrence.

LATER. The carriage occupied by her Majesty and Princess Beatrice has been examined, but up to the present moment no mark or indentation has been found upon it. Mr. John Brown, the Queen's personal servant, was sitting in the rumble, and saw Maclean raise his hand and take aim with the revolver, which was fired as the carriage dashed towards the prisoner, the bullet from the weapon passing probably the upper part of the back of the carriage and dropping in the station yard. Her Majesty happened to be sitting on the right side of the back seat of the vehicle, the furthest place from the prisoner, who was to the left of the carriage when he fired the shot. The Royal equipage never paused in its progress till it reached the High-street, opposite the White Hart Hotel, where Mr. Brown entered the carriage, it is presumed at the request of the Queen, probably to detail what he had seen of the occurrence. As an instance of the indignation of the people at the moment of the attempt, it may be stated that while Superintendent Hayes and Inspector Fraser were seizing Maclean an Eton student rushed up to the Prisoner, and, in an excited manner, laboured him over the head and shoulders with his umbrella. Maclean since Saturday has been living at 84, Victoria Cottages, Windsor, where he has had tea, getting his dinner at the Royal Borough Coffee Tavern Inn, Peascod-street. Upon inquiring this evening at the Castle I was informed, through General Sir H. Ponsonby, that the Queen was not at all alarmed by the occurrence, and remained in very good health and spirits.

According to the account given by the Daily News it seems that Maclean, when he tried to shoot the Queen, was slightly in advance of the Royal carriage, and fired the revolver as it was approaching him. His action was perceived by the Princess Beatrice, who must have been alarmed by this very determined attempt by Maclean, who is believed to be a Scotchman or an Irishman. It appears that while Mr. Chief Superintendent Hayes was near the wicket-gate of the station-yard he saw the prisoner, who was standing midway between the entrance and the waiting-room, suddenly raise his right hand, take careful aim at the Queen's carriage, and fire deliberately at the occupants. Dashing upon Maclean, Superintendent Hayes seized him by the neck, this act causing him to drop the revolver in the roadway, where it was picked up by a young man named Barnesfield, a photographer; Mr. Inspector Fraser, of the Royal Household Police, who is always in attendance upon her Majesty, running up at the same moment, and assisting in the capture of the prisoner.

It is needless to state that this attempt to destroy the life of the Sovereign, which like others has providentially failed at the supreme moment of its well-planned execution, has excited the most profound feeling of detestation and abhorrence of the act in the minds of the loyal and peaceful residents of the Royal borough, as it will indeed throughout the British Empire. The prisoner when arrested was followed by crowds of people to the station, and throughout the evening groups of residents have collected in the streets, commenting upon the attempted assassination. Mr. John Brown, the Queen's personal servant, was sitting in the rumble, and saw Maclean raise his hand and aim the revolver, which exploded as the carriage dashed towards the prisoner, the bullet from the weapon probably passing Mr. Brown and the upper part of the back of the carriage, and, dropping, it is believed in the station yard. Her Majesty happened to be sitting on the right side of the back seat of the vehicle, the furthest place from the prisoner, who was to the left of the carriage when he fired the shot. The Royal carriage never paused in its progress till it reached the High-street, opposite the White Hart Hotel, where Mr. Brown entered the carriage, it is presumed, at the request of the Queen, probably to detail what he had seen of the occurrence.

Another account from Windsor states that the charges from the revolver were drawn by Superintendent Hayes in the presence of Inspector Fraser, of A Division, on arrival at Windsor Castle, and it was ascertained that of the three chambers, which remained charged, were loaded with ball cartridges and two others with blank cartridges in copper. One chamber had evidently been recently discharged, and judging from the sound it was only blank cartridges that was discharged. After the Royal carriage was taken to the news-room, the examination was made by the officers, but bullet marks could be traced on any part of it. The Queen's dinner party was held as usual, and her Majesty appeared to possess her ordinary calm. The distance between the barrier against which the man stood when firing and the horses' heads was exactly thirty paces. Though the revolver is a small one, it is quite capable of taking fatal effect at the distance named, especially as the horses at the time had not got out of a walking pace. It has been rumoured that after the occurrence a man was heard to say that the man in custody had not "done it," but this has not yet been reported to the police. After the Queen and Royal suite had left the railway station a spare carriage from the Royal mews was offered to the police for the conveyance of the prisoner to the station, but it was not required, as Superintendent Hayes had sent on a constable to the adjacent cab-station, by which the prisoner was placed after a flying, being led up the hill to the High-street.

On being searched Maclean had upon him, among other things, a purse containing a penny, three farthings, and numerous other odds and ends. There was also an undressed letter, written in pencil, and bearing date, "Windsor Railway Station, March 2nd." This was evidently written shortly before the arrival of the Royal train, although the authorities have not up to the present published its contents. There was also found upon him a card upon which was written in pencil, Mr. Hucker, 13, Cecil-grove, Southsea, Hants, Feb. 21st, 1882, and also a rough pocket-book, evidently of his own construction, in which were written numerous memoranda, amongst other entries being the following:— "Reynolds's newspaper gives an account of the wide differences that divides the people of England as to their newspaper in the world. I venerate the free outspoken principles of an unbiased thinker."—Roderick Maclean, February 27, 1882, Windsor Berks. Then followed on another page the following in large letters:— "The Fourth Path, a novel by Robert Maclean. Four drops of sweet wine and half a tumbler of water." There were several draft letters, also in pencil, addressed to "Dear Annie," and numerous notes with regard to his monetary difficulties. There was a piece of matchbox, also with his name and address upon it, and a large piece of paper covered with small sketches of chairs, a pair of steps, barrows, etc., and the words "An hypocritical scoundrel." Having Maclean conveyed to the cells of the station, the police

then proceeded to his lodgings, which are situated in Victoria-cottages, Windsor, one of the poorest neighbourhoods of the town. There, however, they have found nothing which in the slightest degree throws a light upon his extraordinary conduct. At present there seems to be no idea that the crime has a political significance, as that is not the slightest evidence to indicate that Maclean has in any way mixed himself up with any society or brotherhood which would in any way account for his extraordinary conduct. That there is still the slightest shadow of insanity about him is unquestioned by those who have seen him, and the only motive for the outrage that can be conceived is a morbid craving for notoriety, even though it be of the most debased and horrible character. The culprit is said to have presented a far happier appearance when safely inside the station-house than he did on the way to it, as for some time there appeared every chance of his being roughly handled by the mob. Having washed himself and partaken of tea, he asked the attendant what damage he had done, but his curiosity was not satisfied, as the attendant pleaded ignorance on the point. No special measures are being adopted to watch the culprit, as it is believed he has not the slightest intention, even if he had the means, to do himself any bodily harm.

The following requisition is in course of signature to the Mayor of Windsor:— "We, the undersigned, the loyal inhabitants of the borough of New Windsor, request that you will call a public meeting in your earliest convenience, that we may have an opportunity of expressing our deep loyalty and love to her Majesty, returning our thanksfulness to the Lord for His protection given to her Gracious Majesty, our dearest Queen and abhorrence at the dastardly and wicked attempt on the life of our Queen, with the deepest sorrow that it occurred within the precincts of the Royal Borough."

Almost immediately on reaching Windsor Castle the Queen telephoned to the absent members of the Royal family a message calculated to allay their anxiety. The following is a copy of the telegram received at Marlborough House:—

"The Queen, Windsor.
"To the Prince of Wales,
"Marlborough House.

"In case exaggerated report should reach you I telegraph to say that, as I drove from this station here, a man shot at the carriage, but fortunately hit no one. He was instantly arrested. I am not the worse."

So promptly had the Queen despatched this message that the intelligence was, it is believed, the first news of her Majesty's danger and providential escape which had reached the Prince and Princess of Wales and the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh. The telegram reached Marlborough House at about 5.30. A similar despatch was received by Prince Leopold and Princess Helen a short time before the departure of the bride elect for the Continent. The gratification which their Royal Highnesses experienced was heightened by the evidence which the telegram afforded of her Majesty's complete self-possession, and that it had been almost her first solicitude to prevent anxiety on the part of members of her family. Their Royal Highnesses replied at once by telegram, expressing gratitude to God for her Majesty's safety, and for the assurance that the Queen was none the worse. The Queen's message, which was despatched so satisfactorily that no change took place in the arrangements which had been formed for the evening, was shown to distinguished visitors who called to make inquiries. Included in this number were the Russian, German, Turkish, and Swedish Ambassadors. A large number of calls were also made at Buckingham Palace. Subsequently the Prince of Wales went to the Court Theatre, and he authorised Mr. Clayton to make known the contents of the Queen's telegram. The intelligence that her Majesty had in no way suffered by the dastardly attempt upon her life was received by a crowded house with prolonged cheering. The audience rose *en masse* to greet his Royal Highness, and the orchestra played the National Anthem. At many of the other theatres and music-halls there were similar expressions of loyalty, the whole of those present rising to join in cheers for the Queen and joining in the National Anthem.

The news of the attempt on the life of the Queen first reached the House of Commons a little after six in the evening when a telegram forwarded by General Ponsonby to the Premier was read. The Queen's dinner party was held as usual, and her Majesty appeared to possess her ordinary calm. The distance between the barrier against which the man stood when firing and the horses' heads was exactly thirty paces. Though the revolver is a small one, it is quite capable of taking fatal effect at the distance named, especially as the horses at the time had not got out of a walking pace. It has been rumoured that after the occurrence a man was heard to say that the man in custody had not "done it," but this has not yet been reported to the police. After the Royal carriage was taken to the news-room, the examination was made by the officers, but bullet marks could be traced on any part of it. The Queen's dinner party was held as usual, and her Majesty appeared to possess her ordinary calm. The distance between the barrier against which the man stood when firing and the horses' heads was exactly thirty paces. Though the revolver is a small one, it is quite capable of taking fatal effect at the distance named, especially as the horses at the time had not got out of a walking pace. It has been rumoured that after the occurrence a man was heard to say that the man in custody had not "done it," but this has not yet been reported to the police.

Before the adjournment of the House of Commons on Friday morning, Sir Stafford Northcote said:— "I believe that, before the House adjourns, it would be a great relief to the anxiety which is felt by hon. members if the Government are able to give us any information with regard to the atrocious outrage which has caused such a feeling of horror to pass through all our minds to-night, and especially if they could inform us whether her Majesty has escaped, not only unharmed, but also whether her health has suffered, so far as they are aware, from the shock she has received. There must be a feeling of thankfulness that no more serious consequence is anticipated, but any other information I have will be thankfully received."

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known, and when the bulletin was communicated to them by the police on guard a hearty cheer was given. An adjourned meeting of representative Irishmen from all parts of the Metropolis, held in London, to arrange for a great national demonstration on St. Patrick's day, passed a resolution deplored the attempt. The Liberal Six Hundred at Dublin have resolved—at a meeting.—That the meeting expresses its deep sorrow on hearing of the dastardly attempt on the life of her Majesty, and desires to show its hearty sympathy with her, and to congratulate her Majesty and the country upon her providential escape, at the same time expressing its strong and unabated reverence and loyalty towards her person." The meeting enthusiastically sang a verse of the National Anthem.

valence of any turbulent or discontented spirit. Of Maclean himself, who is said to have come to Windsor about a week ago from Portsmouth, we shall doubtless hear more. The wretch probably did. But, whatever he is, his importance as a social fact can very easily be exaggerated. Every now and then criminal like him is perpetrated, and all that can be done is to use adequate precautions beforehand, and inflict suitable punishment afterwards. It is more than undignified, and worse than useless, to show excitement and alarm where only contempt and disgust are appropriate. Though attempts to take her Majesty's life have, as we all know, been made before, she is entitled to say that they have never been made by anyone in his senses, by anyone who in the ordinary affairs of life would have been regarded as sound in mind. It was quite natural to conclude, as soon as the news of Maclean's act became known, that he must be insane, or he could not have done such a thing. In this respect the Queen differs from other Sovereigns. There have been many Monarchs of high character perhaps and patriotic disposition, of whom this was scarcely true. Their relations with their subjects, whether by their own fault or not, have not, however, been without some good care taken that he shall play no more madman's part of the same kind as that of Thursday. But there must be some good evidence that he is mad before such a plea can be admitted. The more fact that he has been guilty of a motiveless crime may be enough in the opinion of a professional mad-doctor, but it will satisfy nobody else. If no more can be said for Maclean or Lefroy, he can at least expect to a certain punishment he has brought upon himself. This is the seventh occasion on which her Majesty has been exposed to danger or outrage by the act of one of her subjects. It was by Edward Oxford, in 1840, that the first attempt was made upon her Majesty's life. This was followed, in 1842, by two separate attempts. In that year John Francis fired a pistol at her, and later in the same year Benet took aim at her with a pistol, but did not succeed in discharging it. Seven years afterwards she was again fired at by one Hamilton, an Irish bricklayer, but the weapon this time was charged with powder only. The next year she suffered the most gross and inhuman outrage of all, being struck in the face with a cane by a man who had at one time borne her commission as lieutenant in the Third Hussars. Next, in 1872, after a quiet interval of two-and-a-half years, a lad forced himself upon her, holding in one hand a pistol and in the other a petition for the release of the Fenian prisoners. The year on this occasion proved not to be a fortunate one for the Queen. It was a somewhat heavy one for the Queen, who had been exposed to danger or outrage by the act of one of her subjects. 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The prisoner, who is 27 years of age, and gave the name of Roderick Maclean, is of medium height and slim build. He is poorly clad, apparently in reduced circumstances, and states that he is a grocer's assistant. He says that he walked from Portsmouth to Windsor, where he has been staying for a week. The Mayor of Windsor (Mr. Joseph Devereux), Mr. H. Darville (Town Clerk), General Sir H. Ponsonby, Viscount Bridport, and Colonel Sir J. McNeill were present in the charge-room while the prisoner was being searched.

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PARIS, SUNDAY, MARCH 5, 1882.

PRICE 40 CENTIMES

LATER.

The carriage occupied by her Majesty and Princess Beatrice has been examined, but up to the present moment no mark or indentation has been found upon it. Mr. John Brown, the Queen's personal servant, was sitting in the rumble, and saw Maclean raise his hand and take aim with the revolver, which was fired as the carriage dashed towards the prisoner, the bullet from the weapon passing probably the upper part of the back of the carriage and dropping in the station yard. Her Majesty happened to be sitting on the right side of the back seat of the vehicle, the furthest place from the prisoner, who was to the left of the carriage when he fired the shot. The Royal equipage never paused in its progress till it reached the High-street, opposite the White Hart Hotel, where Mr. Brown entered the carriage, it is presumed at the request of the Queen, probably to detail what he had seen of the occurrence. As an instance of the indignation of the people at the moment of the attempt, it may be stated that while Superintendent Hayes and Inspector Fraser were seizing Maclean an Eton student rushed up to the Prisoner, and in an excited manner, belaboured him over the head and shoulders with his umbrella. Maclean since Saturday has been living at 84, Victoria Cottages, Windsor, where he has had tea, getting his dinner at the Royal Borough Coffee Tavern Inn, Peascod-street. Upon inquiring this evening at the Castle it was informed, through General Sir H. Ponsonby, that her Majesty was not at all alarmed by the occurrence, and remained in the deepest sorrow that it occurred within the precincts of the Royal borough.

The following requisition is in course of signature to the Mayor of Windsor:—We, the burgesses, the inhabitants of the borough of New Windsor, request you to worship to call a public meeting at your earliest convenience, that we may have an opportunity of expressing our deep loyalty and love to the person of her Majesty, returning our thankfulness to the Lord for His protection given her Gracious Majesty, our detestation and abhorrence at the dastardly and wicked attempt on the life of our Queen, with the deepest sorrow that it occurred within the precincts of the Royal borough.

Almost immediately on reaching Windsor Castle the Queen telegraphed to the absent members of the Royal family a message calculated to allay their anxiety. The following is a copy of the telegram received at Marlborough House:—

"The Queen, Windsor.

"To the Prince of Wales.

"Marlborough House.

"In case an exaggerated report should reach you I telegraph to say that, as I drove from this station, a man shot at the carriage, but fortunately hit no one. He was instantly arrested. I am not the worse."

So promptly had the Queen despatched this message that the intelligence was, it is believed, the first news of her Majesty's danger and providential escape which had reached the Prince and Princess of Wales and the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh. The telegram reached Marlborough House at about 3.30, and will be seen was received by Prince Leopold and Princess Helen, who were about the departure of the bride elect for the Continent. The gratification which their Royal Highnesses experienced was heightened by the evidence which the telegram afforded of her Majesty's complete self-possession, and that it had been almost her first solicitude to prevent anxiety on the part of members of her family. Their Royal Highnesses replied at once by telegram, expressing gratitude to God for her Majesty's safety, and for the assurance that the Queen was not the worse. The Queen's message, which was despatched to say that no change took place in the arrangements which had been formed for the evening, was received by distinguished visitors who called to make inquiries. Included in this number were the Russian, German, Turkish, and Swedish Ambassadors. A large number of calls were also made at Buckingham Palace. Subsequently the Prince of Wales went to the Court Theatre, and he authorised Mr. Clayton to make known the contents of the Queen's telegram. The intelligence that her Majesty had in no way suffered by the dastardly attempt upon her life was received by a crowded house with prolonged cheering. The audience rose en masse to greet his Royal Highness, and the orchestra played the National Anthem. A number of the other theatres and music-halls there were expressions of loyalty, the whole of those present rising to join in cheering for the Queen and joining in the National Anthem.

The news of the attempt on the life of the Queen first reached the House of Commons a little after six in the evening, when a telegram forwarded by General Ponsonby to the Premier announced that a shot had been fired at her Majesty, but happily without effect. Subsequently another message, which was handed down the Government bench and thence to the front Opposition, stated that the shot had been fired by a clerk named Roderick Maclean, who lived in Victoria Cottages, Windsor, that he was a thin and meagrely-dressed individual, that he was armed with a revolver, one chamber of which he had discharged, which remained charged, two others with blank cartridge encased in copper. One chamber had evidently been recently discharged, and judging from the sound it was only blank cartridge that was discharged.

The prisoner when arrested was followed by the ladies of the suite in the remainder of the carriages. While the Royal party were on their way thither, the man who fired the pistol was placed in a cab for conveyance to the police-station. This was not accomplished without some difficulty, owing to the indignation of the crowd in Thames-street. The prisoner was driven rapidly through High-street and Sheet-street to the Borough Police-station, where, in the presence of Mr. H. L. Simpson, one of the Justices, he was at once charged by Mr. Superintendent Alexander.

The prisoner, who is 27 years of age, and gave the name of Roderick Maclean, is of medium height and slim build. He is poorly clad, apparently in reduced circumstances, and states that he is a grocer's assistant. He says that he walked from Portsmouth to Windsor, where he has been staying for a week. The Mayor of Windsor (Mr. Joseph Devereux), Mr. H. Darville (Town Clerk), General Sir H. Ponsonby, Viscount Bridport, and Colonel Sir J. McNeill were present in the charge-room while the prisoner was being searched.

Later on the prisoner was examined in the cell by Dr. Holderness, who pronounced him sane. After he had been searched by Inspector Fraser and Chief Superintendent Hayes, the weapon, a medium-sized six-chambered Colt's revolver, of American make, was examined.

It was found that two of the chambers still remained loaded, and two had been recently discharged, while the other two were empty. A package containing fourteen ball cartridges, several papers and valueless articles, were also discovered upon Maclean, who said he should make no defence, but should reserve what he had to say till his examination.

Another account from Windsor states that the charges from the revolver were drawn by Superintendent Hayes in the presence of Inspector Fraser, of A division, on duty at Windsor Castle, and it was ascertained that two of the chambers, which remained charged, were loaded with ball cartridge, and two others with blank cartridge encased in copper. One chamber had evidently been recently discharged, and judging from the sound it was only blank cartridge that was discharged.

The Queen and Royal suite had left the station a spare carriage from the Royal train was offered to the police for the conveyance of the prisoner to the station, but it was not required, as Superintendent Hayes had sent a constable to the adjacent cab-stall for a fly, into which the prisoner was placed after being led up the hill to the High-street.

On being searched Maclean had upon him, among other things, a purse containing a penny, three farthings, and numerous other odds and ends. There was also an unaddressed letter, written in pencil, and bearing date, "Windsor Railway Station, March 2nd." This was evidently written shortly before the arrival of the Royal train, although the authorities have up to the present published its contents. There was also found upon him a card upon which was written in pencil, Mr. Husker, 13, Cecil-grove, Southsea, Hants, Feb. 21st, 1882, and also a rough pocket-book, evidently of his own construction, in which were written numerous memoranda, amongst other entries being the following:—

"Reynold's newspaper gives as correct an idea of the wide difference that divides the people of England as any newspaper in the world. I venerate the free outspoken principles of an unbiased thinker. —Roderick Maclean, February 27, 1882, Windsor Berks."

Then followed on another page the following in block letters:—The Fourth Path, a novel by Roderick Maclean. Four drops of sweet wine and half a tumbler of water." There were several draft letters, also in pencil, and numerous notes with regard to his monetary difficulties. There was a piece of a matchbox, also with his name and address upon it, and a large piece of paper covered with small sketches of chairs, a pair of steps, barrows, etc., and the words "An hypocritical scoundrel." Having Maclean conveyed to the cells of the station, the police

then proceeded to his lodgings, which are situated in Victoria Cottages, Windsor, one of the more expensive neighbourhoods of town; there, however, they have found nothing which in the slightest degree throws a light upon his extraordinary conduct. At present there seems to be no idea that the crime has a political significance, as there is not the slightest evidence to indicate that Maclean has in any way mixed himself up with any society or brotherhood which would in any way account for his extraordinary conduct. That there is not the slightest shadow of insanity about him is unquestioned by those who have seen him, and is the only motive for the Queen's alarm that he could possibly have had for notching his revolver, even though it be of the most debased and horrible character. The culprit is said to have presented a far happier appearance when safely inside the station-house than he did on the way to it, as for some time there appeared every chance of being roughly handled by the mob. Having washed himself and partaken of tea, he asked the attendant what damage he had done, but his curiosity was not satisfied, as the attendant pleaded ignorance on the point. No special measures are being adopted to watch the culprit, as it is believed he has not the slightest intention, even if he had the means, to commit any bodily harm.

The following requisition is in course of signature to the Mayor of Windsor:—We, the burgesses, the inhabitants of the borough of New Windsor, request you to worship to call a public meeting at your earliest convenience, that we may have an opportunity of expressing our deep loyalty and love to the person of her Majesty, returning our thankfulness to the Lord for His protection given her Gracious Majesty, our detestation and abhorrence at the dastardly and wicked attempt on the life of our Queen, with the deepest sorrow that it occurred within the precincts of the Royal borough.

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Galignani's Messenger.

EVENING EDITION.

Head Office: PARIS, NO. 224, RUE DE RIVOLI.

Branch Office: LONDON, 168, STRAND; NICE, 15, QUAI MASSENA.

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LONDON, MARCH 4—5, 1882.

THE QUEEN.

The *Spectator* points out that although no attempt has ever been made to assassinate her Majesty for political reasons, her risk, nevertheless, not from assassins proper, but from murderers, is very considerable, and our contemporary goes on to say:—We have not the smallest sympathy with the idea that lenity to such persons is either just or expedient. The special law of treason rests on the same basis as the right of making war, viz., the just claim of every organised nation to defend its organised existence by inflicting death; and if it did not, the man who deliberately shoots at an elderly lady, who never can by possibility have given him the smallest provocation, and whose life is of special importance to the community, is a murderer almost of the worst kind. He knows he is, and is tempted by the knowledge, and deserves, therefore, any fate decreed by law. We would not step an inch beyond the law; but we see no reason for any disposition to extra lenity, or any readiness to impute such offences to insanity. Let the assassin of a King die, if successful; and if unsuccessful, be kept in penal servitude for life, just as if the King were a policeman. The national horror of the crime is no excuse for torture, but it is no reason whatever for departing from the strictest rigour of the law. We do not believe that pardons or commutations excite any gratitude among fanatics, or will move the hearts of any future criminals. There is no restraint, more especially upon semi-lunatics, like the certainty that general law will be fairly, but rightly, carried out. The occurrence of Thursday shows that those who protect the Queen are not without reason for precautions which often strike observers, and have sometimes struck ourselves, as excessive or absurd. The highest person in any realm attracts the attention of the half-insane as the highest point attracts the lightning, and their attempts, which, be it remembered, will always be made in unaccountable and unexpected ways, ought to be provided for, though we adhere strongly to our belief that the provision should be silently made, and left unreported. The death of the Queen by a murderer's hand, besides the moral shock to the country, must be an enormous misfortune, and might be an irreparable one. It would terminate the Victorian era, and every one can feel what that means—while it might inflict injury on the body politic such as even time could not repair. It is a subject for gratitude to Providence that the Queen was not killed, and even a greater one that the intending assassin was not an Irishman. He might very well have been a Macarthy, instead of a Maclean, and still have been only a murderer; but no conceivable evidence would have convinced the country that the Land Leaguers were not responsible, or have induced them for half a century to come to trust any popular party in Ireland.

THE DEBATE ON THE JEWISH QUESTION.

The *Times* considers that no other termination than that actually arrived at was either to be expected or desired from the resolution brought forward on Friday night by Baron Henry de Worms on behalf of the persecuted Jews in Russia. Everything, and more than everything, that the most sanguine friend of the Jews could promise himself from the action of the British Government is now actually attained. The only result of official interference would be to weaken the effect of the protest recorded by the unanimous voice of the British people, and to expose us to a diplomatic rebuff of the severest kind. The gain of what has passed in England during the last six weeks lies in the profit it affords to the Russian Government that, in spite of the iron tyranny which gags the Press and strangles public opinion, the deeds permitted or connived at in the interior of its vast Empire can be brought to the bar of the public opinion of the world. That the reprobation which has followed the exposure will operate with the force and conclusiveness of more material arguments is not to be expected; but, on the other hand, it is a mistake to suppose that it will operate at all. Russian officials come in contact more or less with those of other nations, and cannot be altogether indifferent to such a general and severe condemnation as has now been passed upon them. We venture to anticipate that things will be somewhat more tolerable for the Russian Jews in consequence of the interest taken in their sufferings and the verdict passed upon their oppressors. At all events, England has done what it could in the cause of humanity; and if the universal condemnation, which, after repetition in many forms, has now been crowned by an unequivocal expression of the opinion of the House of Commons, does not produce all the effect we could desire, it will, at least, produce all that is within our reach in dealing with an independent State. The affirmation of his resolution by the House would, no doubt, have been as prejudicial to the Jews as to England, but Baron de Worms probably knew that there was no risk of anything of the kind. Had the motion been negatived, there would have been some ground for the argument that the action of the House would be interpreted in Russia as a distinct disavowal of the conclusions of public opinion. It is impossible, however, for the most ignorant Russian who conceives himself with foreign opinion at all to misunderstand the withdrawal of the motion. Mr. Gladstone's own expressions, carefully guarded as they were, fortunately place in the clearest light the view taken of these disgraceful crimes by Englishmen of every creed and party. Neither Baron de Worms nor his co-religionists need regret a speech conceived in a spirit to which Mr. Gladstone paid a just tribute of praise.

The *Daily Telegraph* laments the "some what lame and impotent" conclusion of the debate. In former times Great Britain was wont to speak her mind boldly and openly before the world, without fear or favour, alike to small and to great Powers. We used not in those days to palter with the crime or to excuse tyranny. But, as the French adage has it, "We have changed all that." By reason of the latter-day development of international etiquette, our Government declare themselves unable, even if they were willing, to interpose

directly in the internal administration of a friendly and, above all, powerful nation. It is therefore open to question whether it would not have been the wiser, the more prudent, and possibly the more truly charitable course, to have let ill alone, without affording the Nationalist Russian press an opportunity of which they will not be slow to profit.

The *Morning Post* says:—The resolution was withdrawn, but not before it had served its purpose. It is impossible to doubt that the expression of opinion it evoked from both Ministerial and Opposition benches will produce more effect in Russia than any number of speeches delivered at the Mansion House.

THE LORDS AND THE COMMONS.

The *Spectator* says:—It is not that the Lords' Committee is itself powerful for mischief; it is that the appearance of a division on the part of the Government to acquiesce in the Lords' Committee is powerful for mischief. And the acceptance by the Government of the wholly unsatisfactory terms of Lord Cairns's communications is as if they were satisfactory—indeed, the acceptance of any assurances, however adequate, that do not emanate from the House of Lords itself—would be interpreted, and not unreasonably interpreted, by the people of Ireland as a sign of weakness ominous of retreat. We take it, therefore, that Mr. Gladstone, in waiving a formal division on his resolution, would be hauling down the flag of his new Irish policy, and would spread dismay throughout his friends in Ireland.

The *Saturday Review* says:—If Lord Cairns's offer only conveys the decision of a Committee nothing will have been easier than to reward Graville to have asked the House to approve of it; and, as the answer would have been certain, the views of the House itself and not merely the views of a Committee would have been recorded. But the offer made by Lord Cairns was not the offer which the Government had pledged itself to accept. The exclusion of examination into actual decisions was not what the Government meant by the exclusion of investigation into the judicial administration of the Act.

The *Economist* says:—The counter proposal agreed to have been made on Tuesday by the Committee—that they shall consider it beyond the scope of their reference to inquire into the correctness of any particular decision which the Commissioners or Sub-Commissioners have given—plainly does not meet the requirements of the case. The act may easily be discredited, its administrators made ridiculous, popular confidence in its soundness of the rights which it confers undermined, and the existing social tension strained to the breaking-point without the necessity for impeaching, even examining a single decision that has been pronounced. What is wanted by the Committee is an explicit declaration that the working of the Land Act on its judicial side should be altogether excluded. The Government cannot accept any less effective guarantee without stultifying themselves, and acknowledging that their apprehensions were exaggerated and their judgment at fault.

THE CONTINENTAL OUTLOOK.

The *Statist* considers that the prospect on the Continent has decidedly cleared of late. "General Skobeleff has been recalled on account of his bellicose speeches, and it is said, has been reprimanded by the Czar. Explanations are reported to have been offered, both at Berlin and Vienna, and have been favourably received:—

"The French people have shown a marked disinclination for an alliance for hostile purposes with Russia, and the Sultan appears to support Austria-Hungary in suppressing the insurrection in the occupied provinces, while the Prince of Montenegro and Servia, as far as can be judged, are maintaining a strict neutrality. Of course, it is possible that the party of which General Skobeleff is the mouthpiece and the leader, have too strong a bias for the Czar, and may, after a longer or shorter interval, drive Russia into a struggle with its two great neighbours; but this remains to be seen. Meanwhile, the fact that General Skobeleff has been recalled is itself satisfactory, and it is to be hoped that the Czar may be able, not only to bridle his tongue, but to hold in restraint the manoeuvres of the Panslavic party. The result of the events of the past couple of weeks is to give Austria-Hungary time to put down the insurrection, and if it is able to do so promptly and effectually, the danger of war may pass away, and Eastern Central Europe may sink back again into that state of latent revolution which it has been for some years past. Altogether the crisis, though divided, is by no means passed, and we await, not without anxiety, the results of the Austro-Hungarian advance. Still, it is to be observed that the opinion of the great capitalists of the chief cities of the Europe is that peace will be maintained, and throughout all the vicissitudes of the Eastern Question of late years the capitalists of the chief cities have been singularly right. It is evident, indeed, that the true interests of every State in Europe is peace, and the interests of States, though they do not always prevail, still carry great weight with them; but, as we have said, all depends upon the prompt suppression of the rising."

THE ATTEMPT TO SHOOT THE QUEEN.

The official report of the outrage on the Queen as given in the *Court Circular* runs as follows:—

WINDSOR CASTLE, MARCH 3. The Queen, accompanied by Princess Beatrice, and attended by the Dowager Duchess of Roxburghe, and the Equerries in waiting, arrived at the Castle at half-past five p.m. yesterday from London. As the Queen left the station at Windsor in a close carriage, a man, who was standing in a crowd, fired shot from a revolver at Her Majesty, and was instantly secured. The Queen heard the report, but did not see the occurrence, though Princess Beatrice, who was sitting on the back of the carriage, perceived the man raise his hand and fire. The Queen was not alarmed, drove on to the Castle, and sent to make inquiries whether anyone had been hurt. Her Majesty is very well to-day, and has not suffered from the shock. Prince Leopold, attended by Captain Waller, arrived at the Castle at two p.m. to-day from London. The Representatives of Foreign Powers have inquired in person after her Majesty at Windsor Castle to-day.

The general anxiety to learn what effect the daring attempt on the life of the Queen had produced on the heart of the Queen was shown by the inquiries made at Windsor on Friday morning. General Ponsonby was able to state after nine o'clock that her Majesty had not suffered in any way from the occurrence of the previous day, and took her usual morning exercise within the Castle grounds.

The *Deutsche Zeitung* quotes words of Montesquieu, that criminals and fools never die out, and adds: "Notwithstanding the attempt, England will proceed to the systematic realization of the popular ideas of Mr. Gladstone and Mr. Bright."

Enterprises' entrance. Among them were the Turkish Ambassador and the Spanish, Chinese, Greek, and Netherlands Ministers, and the Danish Chargé d'Affaires. It is also believed that the German and Austrian Ambassadors called at the Castle.

Throughout the whole of Friday telegrams were received at Windsor Castle from foreign Sovereigns, Ministers, and persons of distinction in every country, expressing sympathy with the Queen and gratification at her escape.

The Queen on Friday evening received a long telegraphic message from President Arthur, representing the American Nation, in which was expressed abhorrence at the attempt and congratulations on the part of the Government at the escape of Her Most Illustrious Majesty. The Queen, immediately after her drive, devoted her attention to composing answers to the various telegrams which had been received, giving as much time to this as Sir Henry Ponsonby, with whom was Sir J. Cairns McNeil, gave her Majesty assistance. The Chinese Chargé d'Affaires called at Windsor during the afternoon, and on behalf of the Chinese Emperor expressed his great grief at the attempt on her Majesty's life.

The Archbishop of Canterbury requests the Clergy to remember in their churches tomorrow the day of offering thanksgiving to Almighty God for the deliverance of her Majesty the Queen from recent danger.

Mr. Chief Superintendent Hayes has received the following letter, touching upon the mental condition of the prisoner:—

Somerset and Bath Lunatic Asylum, Wells, March 3, 1882.

Dear Sir,—I have seen in to-day's paper an account of an attempt to shoot Her Majesty the Queen, by a man named Roderick Maclean, who may be seen or heard to have been a patient of this asylum for two months, and was discharged last July. The man who was here had a sister, Caroline Maclean, living at 112, Earl's-court-road, Kensington. I was not in charge of this asylum when Maclean was here, but I understand that he had been admitted to it, and that he would have been certain, the Queen's escape, if he had been released.

A Roderick Maclean was tried at the Kent Winter Assizes in 1874, before Baron Branson, for wilfully abetting a child named Chapman in placing an obstruction on the London, Chatham, and Dover Railway, at Ewell, in the August preceding. Maclean first gave the little boy a halfpenny and some tobacco to put a piece of chalk, about the size of his fist, on the rail, and a train having crushed that to atoms, he gave the boy sixpence to place a wooden sleeper on the rail. The boy tried, but was not strong enough to move the sleeper. The defence set up on Maclean's behalf was that the act was one of mere bravado, and that there was no intent to wilfully obstruct the traffic or endanger the safety of the trains. The prisoner was acquitted, but the Judge severely reprimanded him for attacking a boy, and the little boy, Chapman, who had been discharged as not knowing the mischievous nature of the act, and not being, therefore, criminally responsible, Maclean then gave his age as 19 years.

The revolver with which Maclean attempted to shoot her Majesty was purchased at a pawnbroker's shop at Portsmouth for 5s. 9d.

The prisoner Maclean has been photographed in nine different positions.

Two letters addressed to the prisoner have been forwarded to the police authorities. They are both from his sister, who lives at Croydon, one being addressed to Southsea, and the other to his lodgings at Windsor. It seems that Maclean's statement that he is in receipt of a small weekly allowance is true, and the attorney for the letter addressed to Windsor retains money.

As an illustration of the narrow escape of her Majesty, it may be mentioned that a man was placed on the spot from which the shot was fired and another at the place where the bullet was picked up, Sir J. C. M'Neill indicating the exact position of the Queen at the moment. It was at once evident that her Majesty was immediately in the line of fire, the opinion being that the bullet must have passed through her head and down the spine.

More than once has it been printed that there is no "Poet's Corner" in the "Echoes," and the hint may have had one beneficial effect in saving the distressed compiler of the page in question from being overwhelmed by avalanches of poetical manuscript. Still, it may be permissible to quote now and again a rare bit of printed verse. I cite one from the *San Francisco News Letter*:—

"Twas more than a million years ago,

Or so it seems to me,

There was a boy around and beau

The beautiful Annabel Lee,

But none was a patch to she,

This was the reason that long ago

My love fell out of a tree,

Andhurst herself on a cruel rock;

Solemnly, as if she were a queen,

For to be sure she shamed up the tree;

But no sooner down than down kerswoosh,

Came the beautiful Annabel Lee.

We loved with a love that was lovely love,

I and my Annabel Lee,

And we went one day to gather the nuts

That men called hickories—

And I stayed with her 'till the glow

Of the sun shamed up the tree;

But no sooner down than down kerswoosh,

Came the beautiful Annabel Lee.

Apart from the humour of the poem I have not quoted the concluding stanza three

curious Americanisms may be noticed.

"Busted," in the second stanza; "kerswoosh" in the stanza third. "Shinning" is used as an odd explosive which may be some vague

way be associated with the noise caused by the sudden falling of a "chunk" of earth, a corruption of the old English

"chump." Then there is "kerwosh" the

Weston name for a "kerchief,"

which may possibly be a corruption of an Indian name—

"kerwoosh," which occurs in his Excellency the American Minister's line—

They

Would all come down kerswoosh! ez tho' the dan

broke into a river.

Men: The English equivalent for to come down "kerwosh," "kerswoosh," and "kerwoosh" is, of course, to come down "souse."

But how fashions change in the use of words!

But who has not given a sign of life which causes horror?

Friend: The English word "souse" is

now thoroughly legitimate, whereas

the word "kerwoosh" is a vulgarism; unless, indeed, he preserved a vivid remembrance of a remarkable passage in a speech delivered in the House of Commons by Edmund Burke:—

How comes this Junius to have broken through

the cobwebs of the law, and to range un-

der the sun?

Friend: The Junius to have broken through

the cobwebs of the law, and to range un-

der the sun?

Friend: The Junius to have broken through

the cobwebs of the law, and to range un-

der the sun?

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NICE.—15, Quai Masséna.

Great-Britain.

LONDON, MARCH 5—6, 1882.

THE LORDS AND THE LAND ACT.

The negotiations between the Government and the House of Lords must now, we suppose, be held to have finally broken down. The Cabinet have decided that the limitations of the inquiry, suggested in Lord Cairns' letter, cannot be accepted, and Mr. Forster has declined the invitation of the Committee to give evidence before it. A week ago Mr. Gladstone stated that if the judicial administration of the Land Act were formally excluded from the cognisance of Lord Donoughmore's Committee, Ministers would be content. There were some who interpreted Lord Cairns' communication as an acquiescence in this condition, and on Thursday last Sir Michael Hicks-Beach appealed to the Government to explain why it was not satisfactory. To this appeal no answer has been given; but if it should be specifically supplied by the Government to-night, there can be little doubt as to its substance. The "judicial administration of the Land Act" is a comprehensive phrase, including a good deal more than the particular judgments already given. The Cabinet apparently do not consider it enough to be assured that there is no intention on the part of the Committee retrospectively to invalidate these. The Assistant Commissioners, they think, will be asked by the Lords to elucidate the broad principles on which some of their most representative decisions have been based, or, at least, to define them. What, for instance, does the live-and-thrive theory mean, reduced to precise language? It is obvious that when the business of definition is conducted upon so large a scale as this, it must unfold a long vista of collateral and subordinate disputes which reach to the very heart of the Land Act and its working. In other words, what the Government object to is not an inquiry into the judicial administration of the measure, but any effective inquiry at all. The conclusion is irresistible that the conciliatory attitude adopted by the Government towards the House of Lords last week lacked sincerity. Mr. Gladstone, relying on his majority in the Commons, has not responded to the overtures of the Peers in the direction of compromise. This is one of those cases in which a small amount of courteous sagacity would have proved so easy, and might have effected so much. It was perfectly in the power of Ministers to have defined within certain broad limits the extent and the character of the inquiry. If they had used their personal and official influence, and had made explicit representations, instead of uttering vague and menacing denunciations, can any one doubt that the Committee would have hesitated to push their powers of investigation to the furthest legitimate degree? As it is, the Government have challenged the Committee to do their worst—to make, in other words, as plenary an exercise of their powers as they are by their natural prerogative justified in doing. They have actually gone out of their way to leave the hands of the Committee free and their discretion unfettered. Mr. Gladstone has provoked a conflict where a conflict might have been easily avoided. What will he have to show for it in return? Simply an embitterment of Party feeling at a moment when of all others the tactics of conciliation were an Imperial necessity. His majority in the House of Commons may seem for the moment to justify this course; its vindication will not be so apparent to the common sense of the English people.—*Standard*.

MR. BRADLAUGH.

The persistency of the Northampton electors in again returning Mr. Bradlaugh furnishes another occasion of obstruction and delay. Sir Stafford Northcote, as was to be expected, has given notice that he will renew his opposition when Mr. Bradlaugh again attempts to take the oath; and it is highly improbable that the Government will abandon the attitude it has consistently maintained. But this controversy has been thoroughly exhausted. There is not the smallest chance of altering a vote by any repetition of arguments which have already been repeated *ad nauseam*. It is not to be expected that either party will now listen, except with the utmost impatience, to anything that the other may urge. The House of Commons, as a whole, is, moreover, so deeply committed to a particular line of action that change would go far towards destroying confidence in the finality of any of its judgments. It has a recent and valid precedent of its own creation for its guidance, and it ought not, therefore, to require any lengthened discussion upon the question at issue. Nothing that has since happened affects in the smallest degree the grounds of the decision at which it arrived on the first night of the Session. Mr. Bradlaugh's third return does not make him a new man any more than did the second, while the circumstances which led to his expulsion from the House only tend to make it more difficult before to exclude considerations of personal fitness. The true solution of the difficulty is an impersonal one, and is to be sought in the abolition of an oath which, besides failing to secure the object for which it was instituted, has now become the subject of an embittered controversy and the occasion of serious injury to the public interest. It seems impossible to conduct his case with far more energy and

intelligence, and possibly he would have the assistance of a solicitor. At any rate he would give them more to do in Court than on the last occasion.

Maclean is found to have been in Croydon on Saturday week, his visit bringing about an occurrence which bears striking testimony to the man's feelings towards the Queen and the Royal family. A clover, carrying on business in the town, states that a man who is evidently Maclean had his shop on Saturday last and purchased a common hat of the village, and a small shilling and threepence. In payment he tendered a foreign coin about the size of an English florin, and upon the coin being declined, Maclean proceeded to rail against the Royal family, saying in abusive terms that it was a shame that every coin should have the head of the Queen upon it, and adding that if he had his would shoot the lot. His proceedings culminated in his declaring that if ever he had the opportunity he would shoot her Majesty. Maclean was, as may be gathered, exceedingly strange in his manner, and created the impression that he was not right in his head.

The *Daily News* observes:—Local investigation tends to show that the Queen had a more narrow escape on Thursday than was at first supposed. Maclean having stood very near the carriage, and the bullet having passed close behind it. There can be no doubt that Maclean's attempt amounts to high treason under the well-known statute of Edward III., which is still law, if a jury decides that he "formed" and "displayed" by an "overt act" an "intention to kill" her Majesty. For this crime he is of course, unless he should be found insane, liable to be hanged. But, though such is the law, there is no likelihood of its being enforced in all its rigour. A sufficiently severe punishment could be found without recourse to the gallows. The barbarous old penalties of drawing and quartering were formally abolished in 1870, but it seems that probably owing to the inexperience of the Legislature, the Queen may still direct that a traitor shall be beheaded. The Act providing for private executions within the precincts of gaol does not apply in cases of treason. It is to be observed, however, that there is a wholly different and much more modern statute under which Maclean might perhaps be indicted. Soon after Oxford's trial it was enacted that any one who points a firearm at the Queen in order to injure or alarm her, whether such firearm be loaded or not, might be sentenced to penal servitude for seven years, or to some shorter term of imprisonment, and might also be whipped not more than three times. It was under this Act that the lad Arthur O'Connor was punished in 1872. It is said that the pistol which he fired could not have done any one any harm, and that in the present case a bullet has been found, which might conceivably have caused her Majesty's death. But the Act of 1870 expressly includes loaded as well as unloaded firearms, and there seems nothing to take the present case out of it. The Law Officers of the Crown may, however, possibly think that to proceed against Maclean for any other offence than that of high treason, would be taking too light a view of a most heinous and shocking offence. That will depend upon facts and circumstances not yet fully ascertained.

THE CHANNEL BALLOON VOYAGE.

The following is Mr. Simmons's narrative of the balloon voyage on Saturday:—“We started,” says Mr. Simmons, “under conditions so favourable that neither I nor Colonel Brine felt the least misgiving as to the result. After one of the most successful ascents I have ever made, with wind and light and everything in our favour, we got fairly away from the town at 11.30. As we passed over Earl Sondes' estate at Nactonning, the aeroid was about 118 feet, and the sun was very hot. At 11.35 we were a mile south-east of Lower Hardres Rectory. At 11.36 we had risen to an elevation of 300 feet, and were three and a half miles on our way. At 11.37 our altitude was 1,000 feet. A minute later we passed over a magnificent lake. At 11.40 we were coming down again—“we were over a field, and got so low that we could distinctly hear some boys at work.” They are coming down in our field.” I consequently discharged ballast and we shot up to 400 feet. At 11.42 we found ourselves again descending, but by throwing out more ballast we went up to the same height as before, and remained at that altitude for three minutes. We were advised before setting to keep low, and we tried the force of the different currents. At 11.50 we lowered the grapping-iron, and went up to 1,800 feet. Up to this moment the atmosphere was perfectly clear in all directions. At 11.55 vessels out at sea were in full view, looking like small pilot-balloons in the air, and not appearing to be on the water at all. We could also see the Goodwin Sands, which presented the appearance of soles of shoes in the water. At 12 o'clock we had Dover in full view, and heard the noon gun fired from the Castle. At 12.1 our course was straight for Folkestone. Our altitude now was 2,100 feet. Up to 12.4 I had not occasion to touch the valve. At 12.20 we were midway between Dover and Folkestone, and the western side of both towns.

Mr. Simmons then describes what he terms a perfect photograph of the balloon and car seen on a cloud which had then surrounded the ether, produced by a feeling so remarkable as to strike his voyagers with a feeling of awe. Readers of Jules Verne will remember a similar optical illusion—the effect of a mirage—“created alarm to one of the occupants of the imaginary balloon, whose travels of five weeks through the clouds are so graphically depicted by that romantic writer. “We could see our own reflection (continues Mr. Simmons) and every detail, even to the untwisting of a knot which I was engaged in doing. There was at this moment a lovely rainbow surrounding the car—not the balloon—about ten feet in diameter, and the beauty of the whole scene was strikingly grand. At 12.30 we had gained an altitude of 2,400 feet. At 12.31 Colonel Brine asked, “Are you satisfied with everything?” and I replied, “Yes!” At 12.40 we were over Shakespeare's Cliff. We observed that the sea was very green. We passed over a large residence on the summit of the cliff, and on its flat roof were assembled a number of people, who cheered us. We were not more than 500 feet above their heads, and we conversed with them. They promised to telegraph to the London newspaper offices the fact of our being just about to cross over to the sea. I detected at this point to get a little higher, and threw out about ten pounds of ballast. We thereupon gained an elevation of 1,900. The slight surf along the coast line, the green sea, and the cliff affords a magnificient sight. At one p.m. we noticed that some one was at the bottom of the sea. At 5.30 p.m. we noticed that the sea was very green. We passed over a three-masted steamer, the crew of which raised a cheer. We were then in the right course for the French coast, but a few minutes afterwards saw the shadow of the balloon on the sea, forming a beautifully coloured picture; this indicated to me that the wind was suddenly changing, and I at once perceived that we were going in a S.E. direction. Our altitude now was about 1,300 feet—that being the elevation which Colonel Brine wished me to keep.

The spring is opening with great promise of fair weather. The almond-trees of Kensington-gardens are in full blossom; the “Liver-Brigade” of early riders parades in great force every morning; the Queen is driven twice round Hyde-park; the how is filled every day with people—show, everything looks pleasant and encouraging for the beginning of the season, which bids fair to be very cheerful and very lively. The air is full of poetry. Every sort of canary is flying in every direction. Society is considerably agitated. For were a Dissolution to be called, which was confidently predicted in many quarters as inevitable, then farewell at once to all hopes of our cheery little Easter season, and to the cosy dinners, the bright carpet dances, and snug parties to the play, which are so dear to the heart of the Londoner.

There is certainly more enjoyment to be found in town just now than when the report was that her Grace had passed a tranquil night, and the more favourable condition of the previous day was maintained. On Sunday afternoon, after being visited by Sir W. Gull and Mr. Moriman, the following statement was issued:—“The Duchess of Argyll has passed another fair night, and to-day there is further increase of strength.” Her Grace is able to take nourishment.

With all our manoeuvring, however, we found that the currents were bearing from the S.W., and we were swinging round about parallel to the circular form of the coast in this part. No current could be found which would take us to the French coast, nor could we see the coast on the other side, the atmosphere being misty. Colonel Brine repeatedly expressed his opinion that we were drifting towards the North Sea; but as I did not want to give it up until a few more attempts, I made no answer. However, at last I was obliged to confess that we were not going anywhere near Calais, and that if we kept on much longer we should find ourselves making for the German Ocean. This was about 2.10 p.m. on taking another turn downwards we sighted the Calais mail packet. We were about mid-channel, and I could tell from the direction of the smoke from the vessel's funnels that the wind was south-west. This is one determination we must be prompt in action. I directed the Colonel, who was perfectly calm, to stand on his cork jacket, which he instantly did. I first let free a couple of the pigeons—one male straight for home, the other hovered over the car. With our cork jackets on we prepared for striking the water, which we did with great force at 2.32. The mail packet had then gone away from us some two or three miles, and there was no minute to be lost if we were to be picked up by it. With the car in the water, and our legs completely submerged, we glided slowly towards the passengers on the steamer had apparently watched our movements, and our difficult position being observed, the vessel immediately put about, reversed its course, and came up to us within hundred yards. At 2.46, after considerable difficulty, owing to the flapping of the balloon against the vessel, and in keeping its weight, the passengers so that they might avoid being suffocated by the tremendous amount of smoke which I was letting out all the time, we were rescued from our perilous situation, and having at 3.15 got the balloon on board, we were brought into Dover, landed at the Admiralty Pier, where we were greeted with a burst of white feathers on their heads. A few notable exceptions there are, amongst whom was Lady Dudley, who looked her loveliest and stately amongst the crowd of Wednesday, as her carriage, driven by a pair of fine greys, rolled down St. James's street to reach the old Palace of St. James's.

On Sunday night Mr. and Mrs. Langtry gave a small and select party at their rooms in Victoria-street. The hostess herself looked extremely well, and quite unaffected by the fatigues of the stage—which, indeed, she adores—and it was pleasant to see her surrounded as she was, not only by her friends, but by all the members of her family, including her mother, her brother with his wife, and her husband. Among the guests were the Prince of Wales, Lord and Lady Walter Campbell, and Lord and Lady Colin Campbell. Brighton has got up a great deal of forced gaiety lately. One or two fancy-dress balls have been given, some public and others private; and some very good private theatricals were performed at the Pavilion the latter end of last month. Concerts are abundant; Brighton has always been famous for the encouragement of musical talent of every order. It is the natural residence of Herr Kuhne; and all the best singers and performers of the day, and for many years past, are and have been welcomed by large and appreciative audiences in the great London theatres.

Some time ago, Lord Queensberry wrote a letter to the Bradlaugh case to a correspondent in the West of England. In the course of this letter he made use of the expression, “I am only a thinker.” *The Times*, anxious to keep up with Lord Queensberry the reputation for accurate reporting which has so endeared him to the public, printed this, “I am only a tinker.”

As a sworn defender of our English climate, I feel great joy to learn that Greece is covered with snow and that people who have gone there to get warmth are regretting that they left their native shores. I am tired and ashamed of the abuse which I still hear lavished every day upon the climate of these islands. I maintain that it is one of the best climates in the world, and the only one that produces a really fine day. All its goodness is due to the fact that it is the natural residence of Herr Kuhne; and all the best singers and performers of the day, and for many years past, are and have been welcomed by large and appreciative audiences in the great London theatres.

Captain Jutelet, of the Calais mail packet

gives the following account of the rescue:—“As we were on our voyage from Calais to Dover, and when about nine miles from that port we saw the balloon about eleven miles from Dover bearing north-north-west of us. The balloon was about five hundred feet in the air, and we hoisted our flags to salute the aeronauts. We cheered them several times as we passed under them. Immediately after this we saw them drop something, but I did not know what it was then. I afterwards learnt that it was an anchor, and that it was a signal for us to stop. I also saw some flashing; but did not know at the time that it was intended as a signal to us. After this we had passed the balloon some little distance. I saw it dropping, and I then thought myself that they wanted our assistance. I told the men to get ready with our lifeboats, and then altered our course and went back after the balloon, which had by this time reached the water. We were about twelve minutes before we overtook them, as the balloon was dragging us through the water at the rate of 9 knots an hour. When we got alongside, I called out, ‘Do you want any assistance?’ to which Mr. Simmons answered, ‘Lower your boat and pick us up.’ Mr. Simmons was very much afraid our paddle-wheel would come in contact with his car. At this time the balloon was quite upright, and had not lost a great quantity of gas. I understood them to say they could not let the gas out, having lost the rope which had control of the valve. We lowered our boat and picked up Colonel Brine and Mr. Simmons, and fastened a hawser to the balloon, and hauled it on board at the bow of the vessel. I now found it necessary to take great precautions with the balloon, on account of the gas it contained. Mr. Simmons was afraid of any one getting near it, in case they should be asphyxiated, and I was afraid lest a light should get near it. I then altered our course to try to drive the gas out of the balloon, but it would not go. I then said they would have to cut the balloon, but to this neither of the aeronauts would agree for some time. At last Mr. Simmons complied with my request, and cut the balloon in two places, and the gas slowly passed out of it. The balloon was then got on board, and we proceeded full speed towards Dover. Altogether we lost twenty-five minutes in rescuing the balloon. It was five minutes past three when I reversed to go to their assistance, and it was twenty-seven minutes after that when I returned my voyage to Dover. The flood tide was running to the eastward at the time, and was rather strong, which would help to drift the balloon from us. When we first saw the balloon, some time before three, it was going almost south; but when we passed it it had altered its course, and the wind was veering south-west, which would have carried us into the North Sea. The men were sitting in the car up to the knees in water. If the balloon had been detached I do not think the basket would have sunk, and, at any rate, I think it would have floated for a time, provided the sea had not been so rough. The breeze certainly freshened considerably after we took them on board. Both the men had cork jackets on. I had sixty-eight passengers in the car, and there was a great deal of excitement, especially among the ladies. When the aeronauts were got on board Colonel Brine appeared bright, but Mr. Simmons was a bit excited, and they were both wet. While we were on our voyage to Dover the aeronauts got the balloon gear together.”

VANITY FAIRINGS.

The spring is opening with great promise of fair weather. The almond-trees of Kensington-gardens are in full blossom; the “Liver-Brigade” of early riders parades in great force every morning; the Queen is driven twice round Hyde-park; the how is filled every day with people—show, everything looks pleasant and encouraging for the beginning of the season, which bids fair to be very cheerful and very lively. The air is full of poetry. Every sort of canary is flying in every direction. Society is considerably agitated. For were a Dissolution to be called, which was confidently predicted in many quarters as inevitable, then farewell at once to all hopes of our cheery little Easter season, and to the cosy dinners, the bright carpet dances, and snug parties to the play, which are so dear to the heart of the Londoner.

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triumphant night, the Earl of Wilton, according to the last accounts received in town from Exton Lodge, remains in the same condition, Saturday's bulletin stating that there was no improvement.

Lady Georgiana and Miss Codrington have left Thomas's Hotel for Duddington Park.

The death is announced of Elizur Lady Burrows, wife of Sir George Burrows, F.R.S., and fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons, who died on Saturday last at 18, Cavendish-square. The deceased lady was the youngest daughter of the celebrated John Abercromby, F.R.S., President of the Royal College of Surgeons, and was married in 1834.

THE DRAMA.

CRITERION THEATRE.

The new comedy by Mr. Byron produced at the Criterion on Saturday night with every indication of success was described as “a *comédie à la française* as from the French of MM. Gudine and Biron,” its origin being, we believe, a play brought out in Paris last year under the title *Un Voyage d'Agreement*. How near the adapter or imitator has kept to his original we cannot say; but he is certainly to be congratulated on the result of whatever method of translation he has employed.

Fourteen Days, as the new piece is called, is full of life and mirth. Brightly written, and with but little straining after mere verbal comicalities, it has the advantage—so often missed in farcical comedy—of a fairly rational and consequent plot. There is a sufficient dramatic motive for the fun, and the incessant laughter evoked from beginning to end is almost brought about by means which are legitimate in comedy as distinguished from mere pantomime farce. It is not to be denied that Criterion playgoers are already pretty familiar with such complications as naturally ensue from a husband's comparatively venial deception of his trusty wife. This is, however, a case in which familiarity does not breed contempt. Provided only that there is something fresh in the pattern of the tangled web, spectators never seem to tire of watching the foolish wife weave it around himself. In this particular instance there is much that is original and witty in the punishment duly meted out to a man who, having got himself into a silly scrape, chooses to involve himself in a series of fictions instead of taking his best friend into his confidence. Mr. Peregrine Porter's situation at the commencement of the play is certainly an awkward one. While Mrs. Porter was at the sea-side he, and his elderly friend Brummies have accompanied to the theatre a couple of unknown ladies whom they met at dinner at the Transcendental Hotel. In the box Mr. Porter has been unlucky enough to lose his wife's portrait, and in his natural annoyance at his carelessness has managed to quarrel with a policeman and knock him down. And now when his wife has returned, and his sister-in-law's marriage is about to take place, he

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LONDON, MARCH 6—7, 1882.

THE HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT AND THE QUEEN.

Following the practice of the Parliament on the previous occasions on which the Sovereign's life has been in danger from the attempts of miscreants or madmen, a joint Address to the Queen was on Monday night adopted by both Houses, expressing, on the part of their members and of the country at large, horror and indignation at the outrage of Thursday last, and heartfelt congratulations upon her Majesty's happy escape. The Address, it is needless to say, was unanimously agreed to by the House of Commons. The Premier, in introducing the subject, dwelt upon the fact that whilst in other countries, where these outrages have been rife, they have been committed by men often of no mean intelligence and in consequence of real or fancied grievances, yet in England and in the case of the Queen they have had no connection whatever with political discontent, and no one of even average sanity has been moved to raise a hand against her Majesty's life. A low mental capacity and a morbid desire for notoriety have been the only apparent incentives to this as well as to the previous attacks upon the Sovereign. The Queen's courage was not only as conspicuous in this occasion as formerly when the assassin's shot was fired, but her Majesty's first care was to ascertain if anyone had suffered injury, thus showing how truly and constantly she has the welfare of the least of her subjects at heart. It was not the practice of Parliament, Mr. Gladstone reminded the House, to include in the Address reference to any life but the Queen's; but her Majesty's joy at the preservation of those who were near her from harm will be gratefully re-echoed by the country, especially in the case of the Princess, her daughter, who was exposed to equal and imminent peril. The Prime Minister, as his wont on these occasions, spoke with some degree of stiffness and formality, and it was reserved for Sir Stafford Northcote to infuse real warmth into the speeches by the graceful and genuine sentences in which he referred to the ever-growing affection and gratitude of the people for their Sovereign, and of the thankfulness felt at her escape, not only in England, but throughout the civilised world. The sentiments embodied in the joint Address of the Lords and Commons are those of her Majesty's subjects throughout the length and breadth of her dominions. While messages and addresses are pouring in from Foreign Courts and from all classes and corporate bodies at home, one demonstration of loyal sympathy has been made of which the Queen has personally shown her gracious appreciation. The boys of Eton School were received by her Majesty on Monday and presented an address. As two of them who were present at the time seized the would-be assassin, and possibly prevented him from carrying out his purpose, the distinction conferred upon the School was eminently a proper one. The nine hundred Eton boys who took part in the ceremony on Monday will bear away with them a remembrance of the gracious Lady who thanked their comrades for their assistance, which cannot fail to have its good effect upon the coming generation. As for the miserable author of all this trouble, this is not the place to discuss the measure of his guilt, beyond saying that persons of his stamp ought to receive a plain lesson that they cannot indulge their evil passions with impunity or be allowed to jeopardise a life in which the whole nation has the deepest and most affectionate interest. The universal expression of loyalty and devotion which the incident has elicited is certainly gratifying, but it is due to the Queen herself that every care should be taken to prevent her from again becoming the object of a similar outrage. Sympathy for creatures like Maclean is misplaced, since it only stimulates other miscreants with a love of notoriety to follow his mischievous example.—Standard.

strong enough to cope. The metropolitan constabulary is not organised on the supposition that any considerable number of the inhabitants of London will use the streets for fighting out their quarrels after the fashion of Capulets and Montagues. Its strength is fixed at a figure proportioned to the ordinary requirements of ordinary times. These are plainly not ordinary times, and there is an urgent necessity for readjusting the forces of order so as to keep pace with the recent abnormal development of the forces of disorder. The formidable fact with which we have to deal is that the new generation of the savages of the slums is more combative and more inclined to organisation than its predecessor. Nearly all these fighting gangs which are the terror of the districts that they haunt are composed of young men under twenty. As a rule, they were boys of eight or nine when the Education Act was passed, and are now vigorous, lawless ruffians of eighteen or nineteen. Two cases which were heard at Southwark police-court on Saturday afford an opportune illustration of the methods of these social pests. James Bennett, a youth of nineteen, who has earned an unenviable reputation as captain of the New Cut Gang, was arrested by a constable on Saturday afternoon for gambling. In a moment the policeman was knocked down and set upon by a mob of three or four hundred roughs, who rallied to the cry of "Rescue." "Almost every Saturday afternoon," said one witness, "gangs of roughs assembled in the same neighbourhood, and they were a terror to the tradesmen and inhabitants." This is bad enough, but it is not so bad as the story told in the same court the same day by a constable who appeared in court with a hand-gashed hand as a witness against another nineteen-year old ruffian named Dennis Leary. Leary had knocked the constable down and kicked him. He then took off his belt, smashed the constable's fingers, and attempted to escape. The policeman, whose courage we are glad to see was emphatically commanded by the magistrate, kept his hold. A cry seems to have been raised, for in a moment a mob of two or three hundred roughs rushed to the rescue, released Leary, and set upon the policeman. The latter, who was joined by a comrade, gave chase to the prisoner. When in pursuit they were surrounded by a mob of roughs. One of the policemen was nearly felled by a heavy sauceman flung at his head, and "a number of people came out of the houses and flourished pokers and heavy sticks and threatened to use them.

In this case the constables recaptured their prisoner; but what a pretty spectacle does this present of the readiness of the population in certain quarters to make common cause with the criminal against the policeman! Yet these scenes are common enough—to common, indeed, to attract public attention, except on the very day when the chronic rowdyism of some of our streets has succeeded in attracting the notice of one of her Majesty's judges. There can only be one opinion as to the necessity of suppressing this lawlessness. It must be put down, and put down at once. The richest city in the world cannot afford to allow the rough to get out of hand. If Colonel Henderson can answer for order with his present force, well and good. If he finds, as we suspect will be the case, that he needs more men, he must have them. Nor is it solely the police who are responsible for the peace of our streets. Above the police are the magistrates, and the grand jury was not without justification when it attributed much of the existing lawlessness to the mistaken leniency of the administrators of the law. The mixture of callous indifference and levity with which the police magistrates have long been accustomed to deal with cases of personal violence is undoubtedly one of the main causes of the lawlessness which has at last become absolutely intolerable.—*Wall Gazette.*

GENERAL SKOBELEFF.

Telegraphing on Monday night, the St. Petersburg correspondent of the *Standard* says:—

The whole significance of General Skobelev's speech seems scarcely yet to be rightly understood in Europe, owing chiefly to the fact that the personality of the speaker has cast somewhat into the shade attendant circumstances which are of the gravest importance, whether taken apart or considered merely in their relation to his views and action. These circumstances are, indeed, in no way dependent for their elucidation upon General Skobelev's speech, but what a strong and eloquent speech had the "white general," returning from the Tekke campaign, chosen the role of Cincinnati or Collingwood instead of kindling the patriotic ardour of his countrymen against the foreign invader. In the first place, it cannot too strongly be insisted upon, that his denunciations, however ill-timed, are the main, true. This was well pointed out in his leader on the subject, and is acknowledged by most even of those who condemn General Skobelev's action on the score of policy, and foresee nothing but disaster to their country in the event of a war with Germany. Amongst the educated classes, and especially in the highest circles in St. Petersburg, the renewal of the Panslavist agitation has given rise to the gloomiest anticipations, and is looked upon as the certain forerunner of shame and disaster. But, unfortunately, there are ever the fewest; more especially is this the case in Russia, where four-fifths of the population have yet to emerge from the slough of ignorance and superstition into which they are plunged; and the general feeling throughout the country is undoubtedly one of intense patriotic pride in the popular hero whose reputation had hitherto been eclipsed by the vicious denunciation and bold defiance of the hated *Nejmet*. "Skobelev is right!"

More important, however, for the moment, even than the truth or error of General Skobelev's opinion, is the second point to which I wish to call renewed and earnest attention just now—namely, that Gen. Skobelev himself, though perfectly sincere in all he uttered, was, after all, but the agent of other and more dangerous agitators, whose sagacity never showed to greater advantage than in their choice of him as spokesman. Europe understands, of course, perfectly well, that it is threatened from the same source with a greater danger than that which convulsed it in 1876, but the careful reader will note that the Emperor dares not really punish him, though placed by his escape in an awkward and even humiliating position.

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THE RISE IN THE FRENCH MONEY MARKET.

A financial disaster like that which six weeks back prostrated the Bourses of Paris and Lyons leaves enduring marks. Quiet country houses throughout France will for years to come be plunged in a gloom deeper than that which ordinarily overshadows them. A whole class has suffered a terrible blow; and it is a class without much inherent vigour to draw upon. The positive dissipation of capital from such collapses as befall the Union Générale is great and palpable. Undertakings have been commenced which are not continued. All which has been expended on starting them is gone irrecoverably. Establishments are founded or enlarged on a scale beyond the power of their promoters to prolong. Careers are wrenched from their natural direction into artificial grooves which, when they come to an abrupt end, produce an irremediable block. Yet the most manifest result of the recent crisis across the Channel is less the misery it has caused than the evidence it has afforded of the marvellous elasticity of French resources. That the national funds should not be long depressed is not surprising. In seasons of financial despair State securities may reasonably even rise. They offer the fairest prospect of solidity when all about is tottering and trembling with a sudden earthquake. But on the Paris Exchange everything else is ascending in market value as perceptibly as Rentes. From the ashes of the unfortunate company itself which provoked the tempest a new phoenix shows signs of issuing, with promise of redemption for the calamities its predecessor and parent created. The world at large, it might have been apprehended, would have partaken in the shock of the stroke which burst a hundred French bubbles. At first the European financial world stood still, not knowing, as in the second after a railway collision, whether it was not about to find itself rent into fragments or buried in ruins. After a short interval it discovered that little harm had happened to it. Fears had prevailed that the fabric of Austrian credit might have been shaken by the hurricane through the bank which the Union Générale had launched or inspired. That bank appears to have maintained its equilibrium, and Austrian credit remains what it was. At least so sensitive a plant as Servian finance might have been supposed likely to wither under the fiercer ordeal of the imprisonment in insolvent Parisian coffers of a sum which a century ago would have bought up the fee-simple of the principality. Belgrade has been so little overwhelmed by the catastrophe that within two months it has had a reserve of hopefulness enough to crown a king and accept the charges and obligations of a European kingdom. If French investors be protectionists in their disinclination to invest in foreign enterprises, Frankfurt and Vienna and Amsterdam and London do not rotately by a similar exclusiveness. Good openings made by such suicidal combats as those of the past year in the ranks of substantial French enterprises are promptly filled up by capitalists from all corners of the Continent and the British Isles. Capital is ever watching for an opportunity and prompt to avail itself of any which local and personal casualties offer. It is capital, too, in a mass exceeding a hundredfold that of old times. Since mankind has been thrown by the mental and mechanical revolutions of this century into closer communication it has taken itself to the manufacture of capital with a zeal and success utterly beyond precedent. At the dullest periods, when trade is most stagnant, there is always capital for any project able to demonstrate its title to support. If enterprise be not fanned by capital, it is because capital happens to be suspicious, not that it is feeble and weak. There is nothing strange in the abundance of capital forthcoming to take up the investments scattered over the Paris money market by the overthrow of their sanguine holders. Europe has enough spare capital to replace at any moment the gaps left by the uprooting of many such desperate speculators for an infinite rise in values as Paris has seen in the last two years grow up and decay. What is, if not strange, greatly to the credit of Frenchmen and the world's faith in the stability of French finance, is the unquestioning celerity with which capital has distinguished the unscrupulous folly of a set of financial adventurers from the healthiness of the commerce on which they made their audacious experiments. The phenomenon is highly satisfactory evidence of French solvency. The future comfort, however, of the individuals whose confidence attests it might be promoted if their confidence, entirely justified as it is on the whole, were a little less enthusiastic and more suspicious in the particulars.—*Times*.

THE MALMESBURY ELECTION.

The return of Colonel Miles for Malmesbury by a majority of 56 is not an event of very much can be made by either side. Like Mr. Walter Powell, whom he succeeds, Colonel Miles is a Conservative; but unlike his predecessor, whose melancholy end was universally regretted, he was hard pressed by his Liberal opponent. Mr. Powell's majority at the general election was 293:—

Malmesbury is not a big place, and its political verdict is not of the first importance. The local interests which are always powerful at by-elections are apt to vary in strength in accordance with the size of the constituency. But these motives prevail almost everywhere when the country is not stirred by great public issues. When a formal appeal is made to the electors of the United Kingdom, when the fate of a Ministry or the adoption of a policy is at stake, personal and parochial considerations are merged in larger and deeper questions. Adherence to principle, or perhaps allegiance to party, takes the place of kindly preference for a good neighbour or friendly neighbour by an old member who has lost his seat. But at by-elections national questions, and local matters assume undue significance. Thus by-elections tend to favour the Conservatives, who are more expert than their antagonists in the small devices of social management. The isolated contests which took place in the twelve months immediately preceding the last general election showed, as we all remember, no sign of what was coming. Careful observers, whatever their political views may be, recognised this fact, and govern their

calculations accordingly. The Malmesbury election, so far as it goes, is certainly not disengaging to the Liberal party, which has made much progress in the borough during the last two years. Colonel Miles appears to have reminded the electors of the great fact that he already held the office of High Steward of Malmesbury, from which, as Lord Edmund Fitzmaurice observed, his bitterest enemy did not propose to eject him. In a close struggle every little helps, and perhaps Colonel Miles's stewardship may have secured his return. Mr. Froude's candidate, who was to connect the British Empire imperishably with the name of Miller, did not even go to the poll.—*Daily News*.

LORD WILTON AS A SPORTSMAN.

The *Daily News* says:—Lord Wilton speedily acquired reputation as a sportsman of the more severe type. In 1822 he won the Newmarket Stakes with Mystic, and afterwards enjoyed moderate fortune on the Turf. Gladiator, the ancestor of Sweetmeat, Macaroni, Cremona, and Favonius, was himself a good but unlucky horse. Of quality and stoutness sufficient to have won many Derby's, he was unfortunate in being foaled in the same year as the mighty Bay Middleton, to whom he ran second, and whose success closed the career and life of Berkeley Craven. Of late years, however, the mazurine black and black cap have come to the front on many occasions, and notably on the famous Mineral colt, who, after running forward in Cremona's wake, won the St. Leger, which horses were not entered in winter, which the magnificent Prince Charlie among others. Wenlock, as the colt was named, had hardly been forgotten when Lord Wilton won the Liverpool Cup with Footstep, one of those very quiet "good things" in which he specially delighted. He had a quick eye for a race, and when the slender form straightened and the finely-cut features lightened up he muttered "I win! I win!" he was rarely mistaken, after the manner of St. Leger, won Lord Glasgow, whose "Glasgow wins! Glasgow wins!" was often followed by "Glasgow loses! Glasgow's!"

Lord Wilton, in his thirty-ninth year, had already so far distinguished himself as to be the only one to whom professionals could give very little on the flat. At Heaton Park he had the cream of the Waller riding, walked over on Touchstone, and excited the admiration of Tommy Lye and Job Marson by his skill and lightness of hand in riding awkward horses. In the year 1838—the next after the accession of the Queen—Lord Wilton, then in his thirty-ninth year, had already so far distinguished himself as to merit a place in the amusing "Chants of Achilles," written by Charles Sheridan, and supposed to give the views of the statue in Hyde Park on the persons who during the year of her Majesty's coronation passed by on the Royal Road or Drive. All this sounds as the echo of a dead-and-gone world. The dandies appeared in such clothes as those recently worn by Mr. Irving and Mr. Terries in *The Corsican Brothers*, and the garb of the ladies would excite astonishment among the dandies of Worth. In some quaint lines, not disapproving, but inclined to laugh at "Crichton" as an affectation, Charles Sheridan wrote:—

Next, upon switch-laid bay with wandering eye,
Attenuated Wilton canters by,
Hath not the world a dandy to know!—

A compound of pan-tunes and tally-ho,
A forward rider, half-inclined to preach.

Though less disposed to practise than to teach
An amorous lover with a sauntly twist,
And now a jockey, now an organist.

Charles Sheridan seems to have forgotten that Lord Wilton was not only a gentleman jockey, a foxhunter of the first flight, a man of fashion and a dandy *par sang*, a good musician, a determined organist, and a composer of popular songs, but also a capital sailor. He is a character of the social period, which succeeded Byron, and which Balzac has painted in vivid colours, that clever people who did things better than others were apt to acquire a reputation for crime. Nobody has ever attempted to explain why Lord Wilton should have been called "the wicked earl" but that he enjoyed that title to the day of his death is beyond all question. The title perhaps originated when he suddenly became the possessor of the *Zarifa*. This vessel was known to have been a slave, and stories of which Byron himself might have envied the object were told of Lord Wilton's career on board of her. The story of the *Zarifa* and the *Fun* is stated to be correct. He says that his father was the original proprietor.

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Upon switch-laid bay with wandering eye,
Attenuated Wilton canters by,
Hath not the world a dandy to know!—

A compound of pan-tunes and tally-ho,
A forward rider, half-inclined to preach.

Though less disposed to practise than to teach
An amorous lover with a sauntly twist,
And now a jockey, now an organist.

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Great Britain.
LONDON, MARCH 9-10, 1882.

THE VOTE OF CENSURE ON THE LORDS.

At length the long and weary discussion upon Mr. Gladstone's resolution condemning the "Parliamentary inquiry" into the working of the Land Act has been closed. Two divisions were taken at an early hour on Friday morning, in which the predominance of the Ministerial majority was demonstrated. In the first, on "the previous question," the Opposition mustered 219 votes and the Government 303. To these numbers, of course, some pairs must be added on both sides. It appears, therefore, that the Conservatives were at their full strength, while the Ministerialists were supported by a considerable number of Irish members. In the second division—upon the resolution as a substantive question—the Opposition were reinforced by some of the Parnellite section, but the change in the balance of forces was unimportant. Mr. Gladstone's resolution, "that Parliamentary inquiry at the present time into the working of the Irish Land Act tends to defeat the operation of that Act and must be injurious to the interest of good government in Ireland," was carried by 303 against 235. A majority of 68 in a full House has thus sustained the Government in consuring the House of Lords. Whatever may be thought of the result, it was full time that some conclusion should be reached. The Prime Minister's position, that inquiry into the Land Act and criticism upon it were to be deprecated at present, may account for the weakness of the few answers on the Government side to the converging attacks of landlords and Land Leaguers. We are unable to see, at the close of this episode, how the cause which Mr. Gladstone has at heart has been served by his persistence in raising an issue challenging these attacks. The debate has not improved the credit of the Land Act either among those who consider that the landlords have been wronged or among those who demand larger concessions for the tenants. It is impossible to agree with Lord Hartington that the resolution did not fairly bring forward the topics upon which the debate had chiefly turned, whether the condition of Ireland under the Land Act was improving or not, and whether the policy of the Act itself was sound. The language of the Prime Minister's resolution introduces both these questions, and the opponents of the resolution were entitled to discuss them before deciding whether the Parliamentary inquiry instituted by Lord Donoughmore's Committee should be censured or not. The House of Commons by discussing those matters practically proved that the debate was not and could not be limited as Lord Hartington imagined. The main issue has been at last decided by the vote of the Ministerial majority, and what is the result? Sir Stafford Northcote, in his reply to Lord Hartington at the close of the debate, reminded the House that the resolution when passed, though having the unpleasant appearance of a censure by one branch of the Legislature upon the other, could not limit the proceedings of the Lords' Committee further than its members had already voluntarily declared their desire to limit it. Lord Hartington, like Mr. Gladstone, attributes to the formal record of the resolution a moral effect which seems to us exaggerated. It will not—after a serious waste of public time and a debate which, it is acknowledged, must, from the Ministerial point of view, have been productive of many evils—effect anything more than might have been accomplished by a simple declaration on the part of the Government that the Land Act would be maintained intact, and that no interference with the independent action of the Commissioners and Sub-Commissioners would be permitted.

THE HOSTILITIES IN SOUTH AFRICA.

The news of further fighting between the Boers and their native neighbour, Montsua, is the latest, but, it is to be feared, by no means the last, chapter of an old tale. Along the western border of the Transvaal are a series of Bechuanas States, each under the rule of a Chief. The people are not highly civilised, perhaps, but are certainly not savages. Missionaries dwell among them; traders visit them regularly; they come to work at the Diamond Fields at Kimberley, and earn enough there in a short term to support them in dignified indolence for the rest of their lives. The Chiefs affect many of the externals of civilisation, wear European clothes; live in houses such as the white men use; cultivate friendly relations with the missionaries; and treat the passing traveller with courtesy. Among these one of the most powerful is Montsua, whose Kingdom lies in the angle formed by the northern boundary of the British Province of Griqualand West and the western frontier of the Transvaal. Boundary disputes of the familiar type have embittered his relations with the Boer Government of the Transvaal, but while the province remained under British Administration the friendliest relations were maintained. To ensure the continuance of peace after our withdrawal, the Convention determined the boundary, once for all, in a sense favourable to the claims of the Boers. By that instrument, also, we need hardly explain, control of external relations was reserved to the Suzerain. The Boer Government has no power to wage war on its neighbours, and boundary disputes are to be decided by our Resident. As to Montsua and the others, they were told that if they behaved well they had nothing to fear. The consequence of our withdrawal, however, was that feuds at once commenced. One Chief came to blows with another, and Boer mercenaries appeared as allies of one or both. This was in November, and, according to Mr. Courtney's showing, the Boer Government—that is to say, the Triumvirate, for as yet no regular Government had been formed—enjoined neutrality on its subjects. Border Boers, however, have never paid much respect to the wishes of the politicians at Pretoria, and accordingly, we find that towards the close of January a force of three hundred Boers with three guns were fighting against Montsua. Even then fortune was not altogether favourable to the whites, and now from the latest news it appears that, a month after this first deliberate invasion, the Boers have sustained a disastrous reverse. The story no longer runs that the natives with Boer allies attacked Montsua. It is that the Boers are the principals in the war, though

they have a native contingent. With three guns they attacked Montsua's headquarters, but Montsua making a sally, they were completely repulsed, losing their cattle. Four days after—on the 25th of February—they advanced again, fell into an ambuscade, and again had to retreat, losing thirty-eight men and their commander. Whether this war of private adventure has been undertaken with or without the connivance of the Pretorian authorities, it is a breach of the Convention, and the worst prophecies regarding the settlement appear to be already in course of fulfilment. The Transvaal Government has proved too weak to restrain its subjects, and these have not been able somehow to stand against the natives. It may be that these border mercenaries are of a different stamp from that of the men who climbed Majuba Hill, or it may be that native tactics are more formidable than the British attack. The result is the same, whichever explanation be the true one. The disorder and demoralisation will, in all probability, spread from the border to the interior and all the reasons which justified annexation will revive. The first news of these fresh troubles caused a panic at the Diamond Fields. Even before tidings of this disastrous engagement, there was a report that the Boers were organising a commando to compel the natives to pay taxes. The two movements may have some connection. One thing, however, is clear—that as yet the men to whom we have referred have failed to satisfy either of the tests of efficient administration. They have not succeeded in making the natives within their border pay taxes, and they have not prevented their own subjects from attacking the natives beyond the border. —*Standard.*

THE ANGLO-FRENCH TREATY.

The Bordeaux Chamber of Commerce has addressed a letter to the French Minister of Commerce, expressing regret at the rupture of commercial negotiations with England, and urging upon him to resume the negotiations, altering the mode of levying the duties, so that the new tariff shall be more liberal than the old. The Chamber is of opinion that the rupture of the negotiations will be very injurious to French trade; that it will keep merchants in a state of suspense; and that even French manufacturers will suffer damage. It frankly admits, too, that England was justified in not agreeing to a retrograde treaty; and while still adhering to its preference for specific, as compared with *ad valorem* duties, it lays down the condition that the specific duties should be so fixed that they would be lower than the *ad valorem* duties which they supersede; whereas the specific duties offered to England were higher. We do not believe that this letter will have much effect, for Mr. Tirard has evidently persuaded himself that he is serving the interests of France by refusing to let England terms as liberal as those of the existing treaty. But the Chamber of Commerce of Bordeaux speaks for the whole wine interest of France, and the wine interest of France is an extremely powerful one. As yet the change has not come into effect, and therefore the consequences are not felt. But when French wine-growers begin to feel the consequences of the rupture of negotiations we have no doubt that all the other representatives of the wine interest throughout France will unite their voices to that of the Chamber of Commerce of Bordeaux. It will be difficult for any French Government to resist the pressure they will be able to bring to bear upon it. Nor will it be to bring to bear upon it. We have no doubt that the Chamber of Commerce of Bordeaux is right in foreseeing that French trade will necessarily be injured, and when this comes to be recognised, there is every prospect that French opinion will turn round, and that France will be anxious to conclude a liberal treaty with us as she is now unwilling to do so. —*Daily News.*

THE INDIAN BUDGET.

Major Baring's Indian Budget is a very satisfactory one, proving for the fifth time that India is always financially flourishing when not exposed to abnormal troublous such as war and famine. His figures for three years in succession show continuous improvement:—

For 1880-1 the revenue amounted to £72,560,000, and the expenditure to £76,604,000—a deficit of £4,044,000, which, however, is less by £2,175,000 than had been reckoned upon. For 1881-2 the estimate was £72,913,000; expenditure, £74,236,000, which gives a deficit of £1,323,000. For 1882-3 important changes affecting the revenue are announced, which greatly modify the calculations on that side of the account. The import duties on cotton goods and on most other articles are abolished, leaving wine, beer, spirits, arms, salt, and opium still subject to the tariff. By this change a loss of £1,108,000 occurs. The salt tax is reduced by from 20 to 30 per cent., causing a loss of £1,423,000. On the other hand the receipts from opium are raised from £6,500,000 for the year now expiring, to £7,250,000. Allowing for these important changes, the estimate for 1882-3 brings out a surplus of £285,000, the revenue being placed at £66,459,000, and the expenditure at £66,174,000. No income-tax is proposed, or any change in the licence tax, the Government reserving to itself full liberty of action as regards this latter impost, either to cast off, prolong, or abolish it. There are other of the same here referred to which are sure to excite controversy. That the opium tax is to be maintained, and taken at a higher estimate, will only add to the general well-meaning fanatics who look upon the fact from that source as tainted with every possible vice and the coming discussion in the House of Commons will gain considerably in interest on that account. It will rest with the opponents of the monopoly to show from what other source 7½ millions sterling could be derived without incurring the Irish Member of Parliament of North-East Lancashire less popular with his constituents. Probably, any change short of absolute remission would have been awkward. Nevertheless, the still doubtful Lancashire may in exactly the same degree displease the Indian manufacturers, who will maintain that their interests are sacrificed to those of their more fortunate English brothers, and the fact that the consumer must benefit will not allay this discontent in the least. One other detail remains to be mentioned. Major Baring's statement urges the Government to speak out strongly on the point of compensation, as many landlords were holding back from making arrangements with their tenants in the hope of getting it; while Mr. Fitzpatrick, on the other side, enforced the necessity of inquiry by calling attention in great detail to cases decided by the Sub-Commissioners.

Mr. Charlton also regarded an immediate inquiry as imperatively necessary primarily in the interest of the tenant farmer. At the present rate of progress, at least 17 years, he calculated, must elapse before the cases now before the Court could be disposed of, and as the private arrangements relied on by the landlords had shown that the system usually accepted by the landlords as an alternative to the imposition of heavy costs, even if they succeeded in court. Among other reasons for an inquiry, he mentioned the necessity for compensation and the false pretences in regard to the lowering of rents on which the Act was obtained. Rallying the Liberal party on their enforced silence on the debate, he described them as "muzzled how-wows," and enlarging on the peculiar circumstances under which the Resolution was moved, he said it was a curious commentary on the condition to which Ireland was reduced that a common Parliamentary inquiry could not be instituted into the working of an Act of Parliament without its being threatened by the Prime Minister with rebellion and civil war. —*Daily Telegraph.*

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—THURSDAY.

The Lord CHANCELLOR took his seat on the woolsack at five o'clock.

NEW PEER.

Baron Howth took the oath and subscribed the roll as a peer of Great Britain.

THE ATTEMPT ON THE QUEEN'S LIFE.

Earl SYDNEY, who wore the uniform of the Lord Steward, said—I have to report to your lordships that her Majesty will be graciously pleased to receive a deputation of this House with an address for the Queen to-morrow (Friday), at one o'clock, at Windsor Castle.

The Earl of Kinnisley—I beg to move that a message be sent to the Commons to acquaint them that her Majesty will receive a deputation of this House, at Windsor, at one o'clock to-morrow; that the Lord Steward and the Lord Chamberlain be appointed to present the Address on behalf of this House; and that the Commons be desired to appoint a deputation of their members to accompany their lordships at one o'clock to-morrow to Windsor.

The motion was agreed to, and the message sent down to the Commons.

Lord Northbrook in the sitting the resolution adopted in the Commons in answer to their lordships' message was brought in and read at the table.

The Post-Cards Reply Bill was read a third time.

THE BOARD OF ADMIRALTY.

Lord NORTHBROOK, in defending the constitution of the Lords' Committee, reminded Mr. Gladstone that the Bessborough Commission and the Land Commission itself were one. As to the Land Act, he contended that it had failed entirely, and especially he pointed out that it had increased rather than extinguished the land-hunger, and the tenant, relieved of stock-renting, would fall into the hands of the usurers. So from the condition of Ireland being remedied it grew worse daily and showed how much the Land Act was passed.

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NICE—15, QUAI MASSÉNA.

PARIS—15, QUAI MASSÉNA.

THE IRISH LAND DEBATE.

The Saturday Review thinks the best

thing that can be said of the debate on

Mr. Gladstone's resolution is that it

has come to an end. The only pos-

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and it has been shown that, after a solemn

appeal from its chief on a question that

does not divide it, the Liberal party will

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go on. The course of the inquiry will be

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could not have allowed a committee under

his guidance to have reviewed, with the

object of setting aside, the actual de-

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call seriously in question the qualifications

of the sub-commissioners by any other

process than that of asking Mr. Forster

why they were appointed. Mr. Forster,

without any debate in the Commons, and have re-

fused to appear before the Committee. The only effecual means of checking bad

appointments is to get rid of the Minister

who makes them; and the committee of

the House of Lords can no more get

rid of Mr. Forster than the Sergeant-at-

Arms can. If the committee recommended

that the State should contribute towards

the arrears, which is apparently the only

fair and practicable way of dealing with

them, it is entirely in the hands of the

Chancellor of the Exchequer to attend to

the recommendation or not. And the

committee will have given Mr. Gladstone

the advantage of being able to say, if he

is opposed to the recommendations of the

committee, that it is simply a statement on

the part of Irish landlords that they should

like to get little ready money at the cost

of the taxpayer, and to say, if he likes the

recommendation, that even the Lords

would view with approval the efficacy

of another bribe to the tenants to behave de-

cently. The essential objection to the in-

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results of its inquiries, it will be taken, at

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of large Irish landowners, or to be making

wise suggestions for giving to the tenants

even more than they have got.

once ridiculous and noxious, and any re-

form which prevented that, yet left the

Peers untouched in their social privileges,

and with free right of addressing the

country, would, we believe, be carried.

It is not "abolition" the people desire,

but "reform" such as the power of the

Crown has undergone.

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THE KINGDOM OF SERVIA.

The Servians, observes the Saturday

Review, have suddenly taken a step which

has long been in contemplation. They

have made their Prince a King, and their

new King has accepted the honour tendered

him in a proclamation which pays the

proper tribute to the virtues of his sub-

jects and the claims of his family, and

speaks with natural exultation of the

Prince's entrance on a dignity which is

a real triumph.

The Morning Post says:—After six

weeks' session Parliament has arrived at a

point which may well make the Govern-

Galignani's Messenger.

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Great Britain.

LONDON, MARCH 11—12, 1882.

THE WAR CLOUD.

For the present the war cloud has passed over. General Skobeleff has been recalled, if not in defence to direct representations made by Austria and Germany, at any rate out of respect to the political proprieties his rhetorical vehemence had outraged. A new Austrian Ambassador goes to St. Petersburg, whose mission it is to maintain unshaken the peaceful relations at present existing between the Austrian Court and official Russia, however violent the popular and unofficial agitation of the Panslavists may become. The task which is thus set to Count von Wolkenstein is certainly of a kind to test his diplomatic skill. General Skobeleff's recall no more extinguishes the flame his patriotic eloquence kindled than his recall from the scene of his triumphs in the Tscheky country prevented his countrymen from reaping all the fruit of his vigour. And his temporary disgrace, if it be indeed disgrace, is—like the "retirement" of General Ignatieff, which preceded his restoration to power and the triumph of his policy—meant rather to save appearances than to have any wholesome disciplinary effect on General Skobeleff's ardent spirit. It is impossible to say whether the version of the rebuke administered to him by the Czar is authentic or not. But assuming that some such reproof was given, its terms are not reassuring to those who would wish to see the Russian Government distinctly and unequivocally disclaim sympathy with Panslavian fanaticism. Gen. Skobeleff is not told that his views are visionary or wicked, but that the exhibition of them was mischievous, because inopportune. His haste, in fact, had spoilt the game. He meant well, no doubt, but what was the result? Why, that Germany, which before was willing to be neutral, and to act as mediator, both in the Eastern Question generally and in the special case of the Slavs of the Balkan peninsula, now refuses to aid them. Austria is irritated. France—a Power which, according to Panslavian calculations, could have been counted on at the proper moment as an ally of Russia in that general European war from and through which alone, it seems, the full redemption of the Slavs must emerge—now holds aloof, lest she should be mixed up in a struggle for which she feels herself unprepared. Even the Porte has become suddenly contumacious. This is the Imperial view, according to one account. But according to another, General Skobeleff interprets events more cheerfully. He has been told, it is said, that his recall is not intended as a punishment for a political indiscretion, but is simply the notice the military authorities have felt bound to take of an escapade inconsistent with strict discipline. The General himself, as our St. Petersburg telegram this morning shows, uses this incident to point his favourite moral. The Czar, he is pleased to say, is at heart a Russian; and if he has been forced to frown at a natural ebullition of patriotic sentiment, this is only another instance of the detestable power which German "blood and iron" assert over what ought to be the free life of Russia. This restraint can only be shaken off by the "blood and iron" of Russia, and we may be sure that whether General Skobeleff be "detained" at St. Petersburg to organise opinion on Panslavistic lines, or be sent back to his command at Minsk, to cherish in seclusion his dreams for the enfranchisement and unification of his race, the seed he has sown already will not have been sown in vain. Some of its fruits are apparent already. The speed with which Austria hastened to recognise the new Kingdom of Servia is an evidence that official Servia, to use the current phrase, is disposed to a "prudent and loyal" policy. But it is also an evidence that this official element needs all the support that European recognition can give it. It is threatened from within by forces which are avowedly on the side of adventure. The struggle which ended in the deposition of the Metropolitan of Belgrade was something more than a struggle between the claims of the Church to independence and of the State to control. Bishop Michael represented not the Greek Church only, but the cause of Panslavism, which, as understood in Servia, means the solidarity of all Slav peoples under the protecting auspices of the Czar. The Manifesto he has issued curiously resembles the utterances of the Servian Opposition journals. The burden of both is that Austrian control must be, and will be before long, shaken off, in order that the various Slav races may be united into a powerful Slavonian nationality. The one guarantee, then, for even a temporary peace seems to be the success of Austria in arresting and repressing the insurrectionary movement in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Judged from this standpoint, the severely repressive measures Austria has taken against agitation in Dalmatia must be held excusable. For a time, too, the pressure she has put on Montenegro, and the significant warning General Javonovics conveyed to the Russian Consul General, are justified by the resulting attitude of the Prince to the insurrection. Indeed, it can hardly be doubted now that one effect of the present rising has been to transfer to Austria the power of dominating the policy of Montenegro, which has hitherto been exercised by Russia. Judging from the latest accounts, especially in regard to the opera-

tions in the Crivoscio district, there is good reason to hope that the measures actually taken to cope with the insurrection itself will before long prove effective. Meanwhile, the peace of Europe seems to hang on a slender thread, which nothing but a feeling of unpreparedness on the part of some of the Powers prevents from being snapped in twain.—Standard.

THE HERZEGOVINA REVOLT.

The Standard has received the following telegram from its correspondent at Vienna and Pesth:—

VIENNA, SUNDAY NIGHT.

The whole Austrian and Hungarian Press is jubilant at the news of the suppression of the insurrection in the Crivoscio. The insurgents have almost all been captured and they may return whenever they choose unless the entire frontier on the Austrian side is fortified and strong garrisons are kept permanently on the frontier. The capture of Fort Dragalj, which the insurgents had allowed to fall into the hands of the insurgents, is represented by enthusiastic correspondents as afeat almost unparalleled. The troops had to march over Mount Orion, which is 6,000 feet in height, and which was covered with snow many feet deep. Thefeat is, in fact, compared to the celebrated achievements of great commanders like Hannibal and Napoleon in crossing the Alps and Pyrenees. Active operations against the Crivoscio insurgents, which have now been brought to a successful conclusion, did not commence till the 9th of Feb. During the final struggle the hardships they suffered were of the most extreme character. For 16 consecutive hours they were marching and consequently fighting over ice and snow, which was in some places 10 feet deep. The mountains were most difficult, the rocks often being perpendicular, and the paths on the ledges such that the packhorses could not proceed. Some of them were, indeed, precipitated with cannon and baggage into the abyss below. Some battalions were obliged to climb up the hills like goats one behind the other. On the other side they had to slide down over the glaciers. The insurgents were taken by surprise, never having anticipated that they could be attacked in the rear. The only effect of these unusual efforts and hardships has been to drive the insurgents from the mountains, whence it was easier for them to flee than for the Imperial troops to pursue them. The positions gained by the Austrians will have, without delay, to be fortified. Costly roads must also be constructed at an outlay estimated at from twenty-five to thirty million florins. To obtain this sum the Government is under the necessity of assembling the Delegations again, and I am informed that at the Cabinet Council held to-day, under the chair of the Emperor, it was decided to convene the Delegations about the middle of April. The Hungarian Minister President arrived here from Budapest yesterday, in order to attend the Councils of this subject. From the Upper Narenta Valley, near Gatzko, the Austrian arms are also reported as having been victorious. The insurgents fled, as they have almost always done at the time when brought face to face with the Austrian troops.

PESTH, SUNDAY NIGHT.

All the papers rejoice at the brilliant conquest of the Crivoscio district, and are full of praise of General Javonovics, who with two days' storm and carried this formidable natural fortress, almost without any loss in the way of dead or wounded. Whoever has been across the Balkans will be aware that the hardships suffered by the Russians on their march to the south in the last war were not much compared with those endured by the Austrian troops in the present campaign in Crivoscio. One brigade marched fourteen hours without intermission from Trebinje over the Orjen Mountain, which is 10,000 feet in height. The troops had to make their way through snow six feet deep and across fields of ice and glaciers. The new tactics adopted in these operations, in accordance with which troops never attacked the position of the insurgents in front, but turned them, and never passed a defile before having occupied the heights to the right and left of it, have proved irresistible. The district of Crivoscio, as well as the important parts of Herzegovina, are ethnographical and geographical continuations of Montenegro. The march from the plateau of Dragalj or from Bilek to Cetinje is mere child's play compared with the ascent from the shore to Dragalj itself. The Crivoscians and Southern Herzegovinians have been fighting a sort of Montenegrin war. Montenegro, however, has failed to have formed the bulk of the men in the important Crivoscio camp. The result of the two days' fighting is therefore regarded as having put an end to the prejudice that the Montenegrins are invincible in their mountains. The suppression of the rebellion is in fact equivalent to the subjection of Montenegro to Austrian influence, which will now replace Russian influence in Cetinje, as it has already done in Belgrade.

COURT AND FASHIONABLE NEWS.

WINDSOR CASTLE, SUNDAY.

The Queen and Princess Louise (Marchioness of Lorne) drove out yesterday afternoon, attended by the Hon. Horatio Stofford, Princess Beatrice and the Duke of Connaught rode out. The Queen, Princess Louise, Princess Beatrice, the Duke of Connaught and Strathearn, and Prince Leopold Duke of Albany attended Divine service this morning in the private chapel. The Rev. Boyd Carpenter, M. A. Honorary Chaplain to the Queen and Vicar of Christ Church, Lancaster, preached the sermon.

On Saturday the infant daughter of the Duke and Duchess of Connaught was baptized at Windsor Castle in the presence of the Prince and a distinguished company. At a quarter to 1 a special train arrived at Windsor from London, bringing down the Prince and Princess of Wales and their daughters, the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh, Prince and Princess Christian and their children, Prince (Marchioness of Lorne), Prince Leopold, Princess Beatrice, and the ladies and gentlemen of the Royal suite, assembled in the private chapel of Windsor Castle. The ceremony was performed by the Archbishop of Canterbury, assisted by the Very Rev. the Dean of Windsor. The Queen acting as one of the sponsors, named the child Margaret Victoria Augusta Charlotte Norah. The choir of St. George's Chapel was present, under the direction of Sir George Elvey. At the conclusion of the ceremony her Majesty gave a breakfast to the guests in the Oak Room, and shortly after 3 o'clock her Majesty's guests left the Castle and returned to London by special train.

The Duchess of Argyll is fast approaching convalescence. The subjoined bulletin, signed by Sir William Gull and Mr. J. M. Macmillan, was issued on Saturday afternoon: "The Duchess of Argyll gains strength daily." There was no news on Sunday, her Grace is much better.

The Countess of Abergavenny was safely delivered of a daughter on Sunday morning at 37, Grosvenor-square.

Lord Egerton of Tatton is rather better, though still in a critical state. He shows a greater power of rallying than could have been expected.

Lady Harriet Bernard and the Ladies Bernard have arrived in town from Ireland.

THE SAILOR PRINCES IN EGYPT.

The Cairo correspondent of the Times, writing under date March 6, says:—The telegraph will have told the doings of the two young Englishmen who passed from the position of simple cadets on a British man-of-war to that of Prince of the Royal House of England when they landed at Ismailia on Thursday night. The "Boer" (sic) has saved them all troublesome trials in the Transvaal; but the regard and almost affection with which His Highness the Khedive bears towards England and its rulers has shown itself in a most hospitable reception. A Royal Palace is placed at the disposal of the Royal party, the Kaar-el-Nur, where the Prince of Wales and the Duke of Edinburgh have both stayed in days gone by, and where Mr. Cave overhauled our embarrassed finances in luxurious comfort. On Saturday the Princes drove four-in-hand to the Pyramids, climbed to the top, admired the Sphinx, lunched in the shadow of 40 centuries—in fact, did as hundreds of generations of tourists, Herodotus included, have done before them, none of whom, however, had a better name than Prince Albert Victor and Prince George Frederick and the shipmates who have brought with them from the Bosphorus. They are lucky in the time of their visit. Egypt's old-time vast garment of bright green, with the corn that will be gathered in another month. The Nile is fairly high and the climate is that of a fresh, bright June day in England. Yesterday (Sunday), the Royal party attended the English church, which is built on land presented by a Mahomedan ruler, and whose bell is heard by the muezzins of a hundred mosques. What would English folk say if the muezzins called to prayer from a minaret overlooking Fleet-street? The service was marked by a thanksgiving for the special mercy vouchsafed to the British nation in the happy escape of the Prince from the danger she had run on the previous day.

In the evening His Highness the Khedive entertained the English Princes at dinner—a small dinner of friends rather than a State banquet. The whole of to-day is to be spent at Sakkara, the necropolis of Egypt's great capital Memphis, with its tombs, and rock-chambers, and pyramids, next to Thebes it is the favourite hunting-ground of Egyptologists, but it needs no special knowledge to appreciate much of its marvels. On the picture walls of the tombs the bulls one sees reproduced the life of Egypt thousands of years ago, and in one tomb, that of Ti, the daily existence is depicted of a prosperous priest and country gentleman, who fished and hunted, and planted and reaped, as well as fulfilled his sacerdotal duties. This evening the Princes dine with the British Consul-General, Sir Edward Malet, who starts by train with them to-morrow to join the steamer at Assiout which the Khedive has provided for the Nile trip. Thirteen days afterwards the Royal party will again be in Cairo for a day or two, and then they proceed to Alexandria. There the Princes stay on board the Baccante, but they have promised to attend the Alexandria athletic sports, which will take place the day after their arrival.

THE CHIEF MONTSIEVE AND THE TRANSVAAL BOERS.

Lord Montsive—long popular under the name "the wicked Earl"—not only never denied himself any earthly pleasure, but in all pleasures and pastimes, from love-making to fox-hunting, he was perhaps the best man all round known to our generation and to the preceding one. The two things he knew nothing about were navigation and seamanship; yet he was the Commodore of the Royal Yacht Squadron, and in his younger days he often accustomed himself at sea without knowing what he was doing. Of late his yachting was chiefly confined to holding his Commodore's barge in a steamer at Cowes, and pulling ashore in a four-oared cutter with his wife.

London is fuller than I think. I have ever seen it at this time of year. Friends exchange gossip and greeting the whole length of the Piccadilly pavement all day long. Bond-street is blocked every afternoon, and dinners, little and big, take place every evening. People of Society, however, lament their rents with increasing grief; and while many still remain away altogether, those who have come up take refuge in small houses and economy; so that while small houses are relatively very dear, larger ones may be had almost for the asking.

Jumbo and Bradlaugh have divided the world thoughts and conversation of Society during the last week. Whether the one would not be better should be kicked out of Westminster, or whether the other would, could, or should be dragged in chains to foreign lands, have been the great questions of the month. Bets have been freely given and taken on each event, as well as on the double event.

Bradlaugh has received his quietus for the present, and Jumbo, in spite of the Court of Chancery, still remains, and appears likely to remain, master of the situation. Meantime the managers of the Zoo may congratulate themselves on having at all events recouped themselves for any forfeit they may have to pay Mr. Barnum for non-fulfilment of their bargain. Jumbo has made himself a popular idol and attracted crowds as great as those who are expected to draw in America. The amiable animal shows his gratitude to his keeper by putting money into their pocket to keep him in good humour.

Many people have had to feel very suddenly and very acutely the difficulty of knowing how to dispose of a servant taken ill with a species of disease. It cannot therefore be too widely known that the only place in London to which persons, not being paupers, suffering from infectious fevers can be sent is the London Fever Hospital, in Liverpool-road, Islington. Only last week a lady of my acquaintance, having a servant taken ill at ten o'clock in the morning with scarlet fever, communicated with the authorities of this hospital and at three o'clock the servant was sent to the hospital in an ambulance.

This being so, I am ashamed to learn that the hospital in question, which is entirely self-supporting, is suffering much for want of funds, and indeed will have to be closed unless some large subscriptions are forthcoming. It seems to me that the house-holders of London owe it, not merely to the cause of charity, but what is more important, to themselves, to come down handsomely and with their money in order to avert such a catastrophe.

I hear upon excellent authority that two persons' daughters are, at this present moment, the inmates of a workhouse in Ireland in consequence of the absolute destitution to which they and their families have been reduced through Mr. Gladstone's dealing with their country.

Young ladies are loud in their complaints at the dearth of balls. Very few have already taken place, and still fewer seem to be in contemplation. We appear to be returning to the old-fashioned style of dining, but not dancing, in Lent, for the last two or three years have been reserved; or rather dancing was given, but what is more important, to themselves, to come down handsomely and with their money in order to avert such a catastrophe.

The mild creatures who try to persuade themselves that man has no propensities excepting those which may be discussed in family circles are trying to raise an outcry about football. At present this splendid game is the only one in which the youth of our savage breed can give vent to their fighting propensities. Barring the absence of lethal weapons, every scrimmage is a hand-to-hand fight, with all the excitement of battle and none of the bloodshed. Young fellows are trained to run swiftly, to charge with bravery, to bear pain silently, and to stand cold and wet and other experiences common in warfare with stoicism.

Every year see a rush of a dozen little and large clubs of a good team without thinking what the odds are. They would be a rough-and-tumble fight. I am willing to let the old family moralists steal my Sabbath, my tobacco, my freedom of speech, but they must leave our best game alone. At present the best of our men are as well-made as any Greek statue with which I am acquainted, and I should be sorry to see them developing into philosophy with negative calves.

classes of playgoers, has proved to be fully worthy of the exceptional attention which it commanded. There is scarcely a feature in the revival that does not justify the eager curiosity with which it had been anticipated. The Boer is much to render it altogether unique, and to afford a standard of fitness and taste whereby future stage representations of this kind will be easily estimated.

Let it be said at once that the elaborate and gilded the rich and tasteful ornaments in carton pierre which adorn the fronts of the boxes, the proscenium, and other parts of the house. The circular ceiling is divided into twelve compartments, containing portraits of Shakespeare, Goldsmith, Sheridan, Corneille, Molé, Racine, Beaumarchais, etc. The stage is broad and deep, and is brilliantly lighted.

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VIENNA, SUNDAY NIGHT.

The whole Austrian and Hungarian forces is jubilant at the news of the suppression of the insurrection in the Crivoscio. The insurgents have almost all escaped into Montenegro, whence they may return whenever they choose unless the entire frontier on the Austrian side is fortified and strong garrisons are kept permanently on the spot. The capture of Fort Dragali, which through negligence was allowed to fall into the hands of the insurgents, is represented by enthusiastic correspondents as afeat unparalleled.

The troops had to march over Mount Orjen, which is 6,000 feet in height, and which was covered with snow and many feet deep. Thefeat is, in fact, compared to the celebrated achievements of great commanders like Hannibal and Napoleon in crossing the Alps and Pyrenees. Active operations against the Crivoscio insurgents, which have now been brought to a successful conclusion, did not commence till the 9th of Feb. During the final struggle the hardships they suffered were of the most extreme character. For 16 consecutive hours they were marching and constantly fighting over ice and snow, which was in some places 10 feet deep. The mountains were most difficult, the rocks often being perpendicular, and the paths on the ledges such that the packhorses could not proceed. Some of them were, indeed, precipitated with cannon and baggage into the abyss below. Some battalions were obliged to climb up the hills like goats one behind the other. On the other hand, the Boers had to descend for the glaciers. The insurgents were taken by surprise, never having anticipated that they could be attacked in the rear. The only effect of these unusual efforts and hardships has been to drive the insurgents from the mountains, whence it was easier for them to flee than for the Imperial troops to pursue them. The positions gained by the Austrians will have, without delay, to be fortified. Costly roads must also be constructed at an outlay estimated at from twenty-five to thirty million florins. To obtain this sum the Government is under the necessity of assembling the Delegations again, and I am informed that at the Cabinet Council held to-day, under the presidency of the Emperor, it was decided to convene the Delegations about the middle of April. The Hungarian Minister President arrived here from Budapest yesterday, in order to attend the Council on this subject. From the Upper Narenta Valley, near Gatzko, the Austrian arms are also reported as having been victorious. The insurgents fled, as they have almost always done of late when brought face to face with the Austrian troops.

PESTH, SUNDAY NIGHT.

All the papers rejoice at the brilliant conquest of the Crivoscio district, and are full of praise of General Jovanovics, who within two days stormed and carried this formidable natural fortress, almost without any loss in the way of dead or wounded. Whoever has been across the Balkans will be aware that the hardships suffered by the Russians on their march to the south in the last war were not exceeded by those endured by the Austrian troops in the present campaign in the Crivoscio. One hundred marched for fourteen hours without interruption from Trbovje over the Orjen Mountain, which is six thousand feet in height. The troops had to make their way through snow six feet deep and across fields of ice and glaciers. The new tactics adopted in these operations, in accordance with which troops never attacked the position of the insurgents in front, but turned them, and never passed a defile before having occupied the heights to the right and left of it, have proved irresistible.

The district of Crivoscio, as well as the insurgent part of Herzegovina, are ethnographic and geographical continuations of Montenegro. The march from the plateau of Drinje, or from Belgrade to Cettinje is more child's play compared with the ascent from the Adriatic to Dragny itself. The Montenegrins, in fact, are stated to have formed the bulk of the men in the insurgent Crivoscio camp. The result of the two days' fighting is therefore regarded as having refuted the prejudice that the Montenegrins are invincible in their mountains. The suppression of the rebellion is in fact equivalent to the subjection of Montenegro to Austrian influence, which will now replace Russian influence in Cettinje, as it has already done in Belgrade.

COURT AND FASHIONABLE NEWS.

WINDSOR CASTLE, SUNDAY.

The Queen and Princess Louise (Marchioness of Lorne) drove out yesterday afternoon, attended by the Hon. Horatio Stopford, Princess Beatrice and the Duke of Connaught rode out. The Queen, Princess Louise, Princess Beatrice, and Prince Leopold Duke of Albany attended Divine service this morning in the private chapel. The Rev. Boyd Carpenter, M.A. Honorary Chaplain to the Queen and Vicar of Christ Church, Lancaster-gate, preached the sermon.

On Saturday the infant daughter of the Duke and Duchess of Connaught was baptised at Windsor Castle in the presence of the Queen and a distinguished company. At a quarter to 1 a special train arrived at Windsor from London, bringing down the Prince and Princess of Wales and their daughters, the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh and their son, and numerous guests, including Lord Sydney (Lord Chamberlain), who had been invited to be present at the ceremony. Numerous spectators had assembled to witness the arrival. At 10 o'clock the Queen, the Prince and Princess of Wales, the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh, Prince and Princess Christian and children, Princess Louise (Marchioness of Lorne), Prince Leopold, Princess Beatrice, and the ladies and gentlemen of the Royal suite, assembled in the private chapel of Windsor Castle. The ceremony was performed by the Archbishop of Canterbury, assisted by the Very Rev. the Dean of Windsor. The Queen acting as one of the sponsors, named the child Margaret Victoria Augusta Charlotte Norah. The choir of St. George's Chapel was present, under the direction of Sir George Elvey. At the conclusion of the ceremony her Majesty gave a breakfast to the guests in the Oak Room, and shortly after 3 o'clock her Majesty's guests left the Castle and returned to London by special train.

The Duchess of Argyl is fast approaching convalescence. The rejoiced bulletin, signed by Sir William Gull and Mr. J. J. Morrison, was issued on Saturday afternoon: "The Duchess of Argyl gains strength daily." There was no bulletin on Sunday, as her Grace is so much better.

The Countess of Aberdeen was taken ill, and returned to London by special train.

The Duchess of Argyl is fast approaching convalescence. The rejoiced bulletin, signed by Sir William Gull and Mr. J. J. Morrison, was issued on Saturday afternoon:

"The Duchess of Argyl gains strength daily."

Lord Egerton of Tatton is rather better, though still in a critical state. He shows a greater power of rallying than could have been expected.

Lady Harriet Bernard and the Ladies

Bernard have arrived in town from Ireland.

PARIS, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15, 1882.

tions in the Crivoscio district, there is good reason to hope that the measures actually taken to cope with the insurrection itself will before long prove effective. Meanwhile, the peace of Europe seems to hang on a slender thread, which nothing but a feeling of unpreparedness on the part of some of the Powers prevents from being snapped in twain.—Standard.

THE SAILOR PRINCES IN EGYPT.

The Cairo correspondent of the *Times*, writing under date March 6, says:—"The telegraph will have told the doings of the two young Englishmen who passed from the condition of simple cadets on a British naval war to that of Princes of the Royal House of England as they landed at Ismailia on Thursday night. Their struggle *incognito* has started with all trouble. Their secret is safe, but the regard and almost affection which His Highness the Khedive bears towards England and its rulers has shown itself in a most hospitable reception. A Royal Palace is placed at the disposal of the Royal party, the Kasr-el-Nur, where the Prince of Wales and the Duke of Edinburgh have both stayed in days gone by, and where Mr. Cave overhauled our embarrassed finances in luxurious comfort. On Saturday the Princes drove four-in-hand to the Pyramids, climbed to the top, admired the Sphinx, landed in the shade of 40 centuries, and did as hundreds of general tourists. Herodotus included, have done before them, none of whom, however, had a better time than Prince Albert Victor and Prince George. Frederick and the shipmates they have brought with them from the *Bacchante*. They are lucky in the time of their visit. Egypt is clad in one vast garment of bright green, with the corn that will be gathered in another month. The Nile is fairly high and the climate is that of a fresh, bright June day in England. Yesterday (Sunday), the Royal party attended the English church, which is built on land presented by a Mahomedan ruler, and whose bell is heard by the masses of a hundred mosques. What would English folk say if the muezzins called to prayer in the great mosque of the Plecton-street? The service was marked by giving for the special mazy vouchsafed to the British nation in the happy escape of her Majesty from the danger she had run on the previous day.

In the evening His Highness the Khedive entertained the English Princes at dinner—a pleasant dinner of friends rather than a State banquet. The whole of to-day is to be spent at Sakkara, the necropolis of Egypt's great capital Memphis, with its tombs, and rock-chambers, and pyramids. Next to Thebes, it is the favourite hunting-ground of Egyptologists, but it need no special knowledge to appreciate much of its marvels. On the pictured walls of the tombs of the bulls one sees reproduced the life of Egypt thousands of years ago, and in one tomb, that of Th. the Great, and co-extensive with it, the pectoral priest and coadjutor of the bull, who hunted and planted and reaped, as well as fulfilled his sacerdotal duties. This evening the Princes dine with the British Consul-General, Sir Edward Malet, who starts by train with them to-morrow to join the steamer *Assiout* which the Khedive has provided for the Nile trip. Thirteen days afterwards the Royal party will again be in Cairo for a day or two, and then they proceed to Alexandria. There the Princes stay on board the *Bacchante*, and they have promised to attend the Alexandrian athletic sports, which will take place the day after their arrival.

THE CHIEF MONTSIVE AND THE TRANSVAAL BOERS.

The Chief Montsive (variously spelt Montsive, Montsiva, and Montsiva) with whom, the telegraphic reports from South Africa are to be relied upon, the Transvaal State or part of the Transvaal State is waging a not inconsiderable war, rulers a people who in many respects are among the foremost of natives in South Africa. They are Basothas, a race so far better known to Englishmen under the name borne by other portions of their kinsmen—Basutos; for the Basutos who have so successfully encountered both the arms and the diplomacy of the Cape Colony and the Basutos who, under Seecooen, were hardly less prosperous in their defiance of the Transvaal Boers, are all branches of the Bechuanas nation. Thus it should be needless now to say that these in their capacity for civilisation—that the agriculture, use ploughs and wagons, horses, and cotton and woolen goods and clothes; build good houses, and resort to hunting, not in the main as savages, but as traders. Montsive is principal chief of a band of Bechuanas called Barolong, and he and other chiefs of kindred bands have hunting grounds, or hunting rights over ground in the Kalahari desert, whence they bring ostrich feathers and skins to the trader's wagon. Old Montsive has been an object of intense dislike to the Transvaal Boers. In the younger days of the Republic beyond the Vaal he was too strong for them to subdue, and he was held as an ally. He is an old man now, and in the early days, somewhere about 1837, when the migration from the Cape Colony was still continuing, he sided against their Zulu enemy Mosetlakane. Then came the usual dispute—a variance of view as to the title to land—and Montsive retired for a time northward. It must not be forgotten that all, or nearly all, of the lands in question west of the Transvaal are valuable largely, and in some cases wholly, for their water supply. It is an arid country. The rivers marked on the map which, if tradition tells truly, once flowed in fair streams, are but dry watercourses for three parts of the year. Thus the springs, "fountains" as they are called from the Dutch use of the word, are the wealth, and the cattle are distributed about at different "posts," and it is not uncommon for a chief and people to have rights, by long usage, over water on the land belonging to others. Accordingly, Montsive coming to the Cape Colony was still continuing, he sided against their Zulu enemy Mosetlakane. Then came the usual dispute—a variance of view as to the title to land—and Montsive is getting worse, and he is not in good state of health." That was to the same effect as he (witness) now stated. The prisoner said nothing could be admitted in a criminal case; but he was not going to dispute that the prisoner was in impoverished circumstances during the time alluded to. By not contesting the prisoner's circumstances he (Mr. Williams) thought that he should be saving an enormous amount of time.

John Law Tulloch, a medical student, stated that he assisted the prisoner at Nelson's Hotel in packing up his luggage to go to Paris. His baggage was left at the Waterloo Station, and they went together to Wimborne to see the prisoner's brother-in-law. The witness, however, did not go to the Heinrich House, but waited for the return of the prisoner, who said that he had seen the deceased, who was very much worse and would not last long. The prisoner also said that he had seen Mr. Bedbrook, who was a director of a continental railway, and said that there was a bad boat on the service that night, and that therefore he (the prisoner) should not go to Paris that night. He induced Mr. Perrat, of the Eyre Arms, St. John's-wort, to cash a cheque for £100, and arranged to go to Paris the next day. They met the next day at the Adelphi for that purpose, but the prisoner said that it was too late. The cheque was presented, but it was dishonoured and made "No account." Cross-examined by Mr. Williams: "He might have said before the magistrate that the prisoner said, 'I have been to the school and seen the boy, and he is not very well.' The curvature of the spine is getting worse, and he is not in good state of health." That was to the same effect as he (witness) now stated. The prisoner said nothing about the boy going through an examination. In August, 1879, the witness gave £20 to the prisoner, who had been very ill, and in some cases wholly, for their water supply. It is an arid country. The rivers marked on the map which, if tradition tells truly, once flowed in fair streams, are but dry watercourses for three parts of the year. Thus the springs, "fountains" as they are called from the Dutch use of the word, are the wealth, and the cattle are distributed about at different "posts," and it is not uncommon for a chief and people to have rights, by long usage, over water on the land belonging to others. 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THE NORTH BORNEO CHARTER.
If the North Borneo Charter be analyzed, it will be seen that the Crown imposes conditions and reservations upon the unlimited grants which the company derives from their bargain with the native rulers. Thus the company are bound to remain British in character and domicile. They cannot transfer the benefit of their grants without the permission of the English Government. The company are bound to disburse and, as far as practicable, abolish by degrees all systems of domestic slavery. The appointment of the company's principal representative in the island is to be subject to the approval of the Crown. In short, as was explained in the House of Lords on Monday, the charter does not create new rights; it restricts those which exist. It thus differs essentially from charters to which it has been compared, such as those granted to the East India Company, the Hudson's Bay Company, and the New Zealand Company. The peculiarity of those famous grants was that the Crown professed to bestow sovereign rights upon bodies corporate. The North Borneo Charter gives practically nothing, and it takes away not a little. What cannot fail also to influence the Government in the course which they took is the fact, to which our naval officers have borne testimony, that the administration of the company appears to be liked by the natives, and that the traces of amendment are already to be seen in decrease of piracy, increase of trade, and the growth of a feeling of security. Of course, the real character of the apprehensions felt with regard to the charter must be frankly faced. It is feared that the company may involve us in troubles with foreign Powers. This is a weighty consideration. But caution as to this may be carried too far. What would be the present area of our empire, where would be our colonies, if we had never countenanced Englishmen going to a foreign land in which their operations might give offence to any State? The Spanish Government may oppose the concession granted to the company; but they do so in virtue of claims against which this country has always protested. Lord Salisbury and Lord Granville were both obliged to enter into negotiation with the Dutch Government on the subject. On learning that a charter had been granted, that Government asked for precise explanations. But the communications which have passed seem to be satisfactory; and, indeed, it scarcely lies in the mouth of Holland to protest against the aggrandisement of any Power in the neighbourhood of Borneo. The only other argument against seeing English influence extend to that vast island—the largest in the world, Australia excepted—is rich in mines of gold, silver, and coal, clothed with inexhaustible forests, pierced by navigable rivers, and possessing large plains, which feed herds of cattle, is the fear that the Crown may be compelled to intervene if the chartered company should get into trouble with the natives. This is a reasonable apprehension. The danger is one to be guarded against, and it is to be hoped that the company will clearly understand that our cruisers cannot be at their service. Perhaps, however, this danger would require careful attention, whether the company were or were not incorporated. The precedents of the Abyssinian war and many others show that intervention can be too readily commanded by our subjects when in distress, though they possess no corporate existence.—*Pall Mall Gazette*.

tion will be destroyed. Domestic reform can, however, be postponed. It is not an international question, and its postponement only injures the population, which the "National" party professes to represent. But a question which cannot be postponed is the question of finance; and in dealing with this the Nationalists have already come dangerously near provoking the intervention of Europe. The first object of every enlightened Chancellor of the Exchequer is to keep down military expenditure. The first step of the Nationalists has been to swell the military estimates at a sum which is variously estimated from £370,000 to £670,000, but which will probably not fall much short of a million. They have also voted away the whole reserve fund for unforeseen expenses in 1882. As a result, it is probable that this year Egyptian finance will show a deficit. Not the only one thing worse than a deficit in Egypt, and that is anarchy. The "National" party has brought us face to face with both. It may be that Ourabi, for whose elevation to supreme power the army is already clamouring, may, even at the eleventh hour, arrest the movement which at present seems to be leading direct to a catastrophe. The chances, however, are decidedly the other way. Disorder is not likely to abate because it has got beyond control, and of spending money upon the army there is no end. If the European officials are dismissed, the deterioration of the Administration which has already begun will go on apace until the general collapse which even now does not seem very far off. We are therefore confronted with the alarming possibility that we may have to intervene in Egypt to restore order at any moment, and the scarcely less alarming certainty that unless the "National" party reverse their course intervention will be inevitable at no distant date. The Powers are pledged up to the eyes to prevent anarchy, and how far is anarchy off to-day? The Controllers represent the guarantee for the due payment of the dividends held by European bondholders; but how long can they guarantee payments from an Exchequer which they do not control? The situation is serious to the last degree, and unless matters take an unexpected turn for the better the year is not likely to pass without seeing an armed intervention. This is all that we can make of the reports that are now coming to England by every mail; and the departure of M. de Blignières, whose loyal cooperation with Sir Auckland Colvin was the chief security for the smooth working of the Control, is by no means calculated to allay the apprehensions which they excite.—*Pall Mall Gazette*.

THE NEW CARDINALS.

The Rome correspondent of the *Standard* telegraphed on Monday night:—

The Consistory, which has been deferred more than once, has been definitely fixed for the middle of April. Seven new Cardinals will be then created—1. Monsignor MacCabe, Archbishop of Dublin, an appointment which will, as is believed at the Vatican, be acceptable to the English Government; 2. Monsignor Luchi, of Garida, Archbishop of Siville; 3. Monsignor Lavigorie, Archbishop of Algiers—this nomination was strongly insisted on by the French Government, and it will be at least proportionately disagreeable to all classes, except, of course, the Clericals in Italy. Mr. Lavigorie may be a very estimable prelate, but to the English Government and people, as to the French, his name only represents a steady and consistent use of his position and sacred character for the advancement of French aims and interests, and the destruction of Italian aims and interests in Tunis; the Pope must know very well that such an appointment is little indeed calculated to promote the interests of religion among a population in which the Christian element is mainly Italian; but he has been overborne by French influence—4. Monsignor Agostini, Patriarch of Vence; 5. Monsignor Ricci, his Holiness's Major Domo—this appointment has been mainly motivated by the desire of opening the way for certain important changes which are contemplated in the offices of the Apostolic Commission; 6. Monsignor Angelo Jacobini, Assessor of the Holy Office; 7. Monsignor Lasagna, Secretary of the Sacred Congregation.

I told you some little time since that it was that wish of the Holy Father to nominate the new Bishops to the Sees vacant in Germany in consequence of the late Kulturkampf in Consistory, a solemn mode of nomination not practised by the Holy See in the case of those countries which send accredited representatives to the Apostolic Court. And I mentioned that one of the reasons for the postponement of the Consistory was the wish of the Holy Father to wait for the vote of the Prussian Parliament authorising the appointment of a Resident in Rome in order that the new Bishops might be named with that full ceremonial. But the funds for the Representatives at the Apostolic Court have been voted, and yet no German Bishops will be named in the next Consistory. The reason is that suddenly and most suddenly, as is declared at the Vatican, a new difficulty, and one not likely to be readily got over, has arisen. This is the insistence of the German Government that the selection of the Bishops should remain with them. This demand, it is unexpected, as is declared, has produced something very like consternation at the Vatican, where it had been supposed that the names of the Bishops to be appointed were already agreed upon by both parties.

THE STATE OF IRELAND.

A rumour is current in Dublin that Mr. Parnell has declared his intention of not stirring from Kilmainham to Armagh, or any other gaol, unless compelled by force.

Actions have been commenced in the Dublin Exchequer Division on behalf of the owners of the *United Ireland* to test the legality of the seizure of that paper. The writ of summons has been issued by the Irish National Newspaper Publishing Company (Limited) against Mr. Forster, Chief Secretary for Ireland; Captain George Talbot, Chief Commissioner of Police; and Colonel Connolly, V.C., Assistant Commissioner; and Superintendent John Mallon, Inspector Thomas Kavanaugh, Inspector James Smith, and Detective Officers James and James Sheridan. The damages are laid at £30,000. The complaint is that the defendants have seized and entered the plaintiff's house and seized copies of the newspaper. An appearance has been entered on the part of the defendants.

Intelligence reached Limerick that on a property in the county notices purporting to be signed by "Captain Moonlight" were extensively posted up on Monday night warning the tenants not to pay their rent, on pain of receiving a visit from that personage with the usual results. The notices were torn down by the police. Cornelius O'Callaghan, farmer, from Creva, county Clare, was arrested on Monday, under the Coercion Act, and lodged in the County Limerick Gaol. O'Callaghan is charged with inciting to non-payment of rent.

Four men, armed with pistols, entered the house of Edward Kersey, in the village of Crosshaven, situated midway between Ennis and Gort, co. Clare, on Sunday night. They dragged him out of bed on to the road, then

PARIS, THURSDAY, MARCH 16, 1882.

PRICE 40 CENTIMES

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—MONDAY.

The Lord CHANCELLOR took his seat on the woolsack shortly after five o'clock.

ROYAL ASSENT.

The Royal Assent was given by Commission to the Consolidated Fund (No. 1) Bill, and the Post Cards (Reply) Bill. The Royal Commissioners were Earl Granville, Earl Sydenham, and the Earl of Kenmare.

BASUTOLAND.—THE TRANSVAAL BOERS AND THE

that the International Tribunals had conferred the greatest benefits on the Egyptian people and taught them for the first time what justice was.

Mr. GOSCHEN warned the House of the dangers of a premature discussion of the political situation, but with regard to the International Tribunals expressed a hope that the Government would not think for a moment abandoning institutions which had conferred on the people the boon of pure and incorruptible justice.

Sir GEORGE ELLIOTT remarked that Sir C. Campbell had not supported a single allegation in his speech by evidence. Agreeing entirely with Mr. Goschen as to the danger of premature discussion he declined to say a word about the Contre, but energetically defended the International Tribunals, which he said, were most popular and had conferred immense advantages on the country.

Sir G. ELLIOTT, as a regular visitor to Egypt for the last 15 years, bore testimony to the immense improvement in the condition of the people and hoped the Government would not permit the International Tribunals to be weakened.

After some observations from Mr. O'DON-

NELL, the motion was negatived.

MILITARY UNIFORMS.

Colonel BARNE, who was supported by Lord EICHLER, next made some suggestions in favour of the uniform of the Army, complaining chiefly that it is too tight for service and that its colour exposes the men to unnecessary danger in these days of arms of precision. Mr. CHIDLER agreed on the first point, and on the second he reserved comment until his statement.

TREATMENT OF "SUSPECTS."

The treatment of the "suspects" was next brought before the House by Mr. REDMOND, who complained especially of the rule under which they were locked in solitary confinement for 18 hours of every day. Mr. FORSTER pointed out that the whole was the outcome of a prolonged discussion in Committee, and a considerable extension of the indulgences extended to untried prisoners. He promised, however, to inquire whether the six hours of social intercourse allowed to the prisoners could be differently distributed throughout the day. Mr. CALNE, as an unwilling supporter of the Coercion Acts, hoped that the Government would show as much leniency as possible, while Sir J. HAY expressed a fear that the acts had been used for punishment, and not simply for the purposes of prevention. He said, too, that if these severities had been practised by any other government there would have been an inquiry by a Select Committee. Mr. MOLLOY, Mr. LEAMY, Mr. SEXTON, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. MACFARLANE, Mr. GILL, and others also spoke in favour of the treatment of the "suspects" as it was in the opinion of Mr. ONSLOW made some remarks in defence of Mr. FORSTER against the charge of inhumanity. Mr. BIGGAR, on the contrary, declared his belief that the right hon. gentleman took pleasure in the exercise of his powers under this act, upon which the Speaker cautioned him that if he persisted in ininputting unworthy motives to Mr. FORSTER it would be necessary to take summary measures with him.

Mr. HEALY made an earnest appeal to the Prime Minister to look into the matter himself, and read statements, which Mr. GLADSTONE desired might be forwarded to the Irish Office.

ARMY ESTIMATES.

The House (at 12.45) went into Committee of Supply.

Mr. UPTON, in making the usual statement, explained first that the Estimates were in a different form this year, as they would show only the actual cost to the taxpayer without the extra receipts. Stated thus, the Army Estimates for the year are £15,500,000.

Passing to the details of the votes he mentioned the chief decrease—viz., £1,066,000 for South African expenses, £558,000 extra receipts, and a considerable decrease for works. On the other side of the account there is a large increase, amounting to £313,000 for rearment of the Navy, and he showed that guns ranging from 45 tons downards have been for some time under trial with satisfactory results. There is also an increase for non-commissioned officers' pay £15,000; purchase of horses to complete establishments, £20,000; military manœuvres, £20,000; and allowances to volunteers, £2,000.

Discussing generally the growth of the Army and Navy expenditure, he compared it first with the growth of its population, showing that in 1858 it amounted to 15s. per head; in 1863-4, to 15s. 8d.; while in the present year it was 14s. 8d. per head of the population. Next he compared it with the growth of the spirit duties, showing that this branch of the revenue, which in 1858 was £3,000,000 less than the military expenditure, is now £2,000,000 in excess of it. Next he showed that the expenditure which up to 1852 amounted to a yield of 1s. 6d. in the pound of the income-tax, was now only equivalent to 1s. 2d. in the pound. Explaining the operation of his recruiting scheme he showed that the 12 battalions at home in the head of the Roster had been brought up virtually to the full strength of 11,400, and though there was a considerable proportion of young volunteers, a considerable improvement was perceptible.

As to the Reserves, he said that from May 1 to March 7, 12,166 men had gone into the Reserves, while 2,266 had been discharged, making a net addition of 4,860, or about 500 a month.

Since the 1st of July about 3,300 had gone into the Reserve under the new arrangement before completing their six years, and the present strength of the Reserve was 25,121, which would make up 71 battalions to the war strength of 1,000, without calling on the Militia Reserve.

Lord GRANVILLE explained that there had been great improvements, morally and commercially, effected in North Borneo.

Lord KELVIN assured their lordships that the Charter gave such authority to the company over a British colony as Lord LAMINGTON seemed to suppose.

Lord ORMONDE having referred to a statement made by Mr. JUSTICE FIELD as to the duty of County Court Judges in respect to their notes of cases tried before them, asked whether the Commissioners and the Sub-

Commissioners under the Land Act should not take notes of the evidence given before them and of the points decided by them.

Lord CARLINGFORD replied that the legal Sub-Commissioners did take notes; but he thought they did so more for the purpose of settling the rents than for the purpose of appeal, because appeals to the Commissioners were *really* in the nature of a re-hearing.

Mr. CHIDLER, in answer to the question of the Lord KELVIN, said that the Commissioners and the notes of the proceedings before them were taken by official shorthand writers, so that the Supreme Court of Appeal was sure to be fully informed in every case which came before it.

Their lordships adjourned at 7 o'clock.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—MONDAY.

The Speaker took the chair at four o'clock.

THE ELECTRIC LIGHT.

Mr. SIR LEFEVRE, in answer to a question from Mr. DONALDSON-HUDSON, said that it was not intended to try the incandescent electric light in the House of Commons until after the experiment of lighting the Courts of Justice.

THE SITUATION IN EGYPT.

On the motion to go into Supply.

Sir G. CAMPBELL drew attention to the International Tribunals in Egypt, and moved a Resolution in which he set out the inexpediency of renewing engagements by which foreign Governments had a claim to assist on the enforcement of private debts against the exactions of Egypt. He condemned also the vexatious regulations of the Sanitary Board and deprecated all interference with the autonomic legislation and government of the country, excepting only such provisions as might be necessary to secure the free use of the Suez Canal.

Mr. MCLEAN dissented entirely from the motion, and from personal experience declared

roundly charged the Prime Minister with pretending a public necessity when he was really asserting his own impious will. Mr. GLADSTONE explained the objections in principle that forbade his accepting a vote on account of his reasons were unsatisfactory to Lord E. THYNN, who straightway moved that the Chairman report progress, and at a quorum past three the House divided. The motion was negatived by 69 to 33.

At this time a force arrayed against the Government consisted of about 22 Conservatives and 11 of the extreme Irish party. As soon as the Chairman had declared the motion lost and had put the question again—at the moment when Lord E. THYNN was on the front bench below the gangway, was at once in consultation with Mr. BIGGAR as to the next move which was anticipated by Col. Alexander, who gave a reason, founded on his experience of last session, for being dissatisfied with Mr. CHILDERS' speech, and forthwith moved that Mr. PLAYFAIR leave the chair. Again the House divided at 32, and the motion was lost by 69 to 31.

On returning to the House, Col. LINDSAY, in a graceful little speech, expressed his opinion that sufficient proof had been made, and deprecated further contention. Lord PERCY, however, was inexorable. He challenged the Prime Minister's allegation that there was any real necessity for having the report next Monday, and appealed to H. of 1872, when the vote was taken at a later date. The noble lord's language was certainly unfortunate. To most of those who heard it, it distinctly conveyed the impression that he distrusted the Prime Minister's veracity. To Mr. GLADSTONE it did so unmistakably, for he rose at once, and in dignified tones, but with evident feeling, pointed out that the noble lord had intimated that he disbelieved him. Lord PERCY interposed with the remark that he was the best judge of his own meaning, and he disclaimed the imputation of falsehood. But how about the precedent of 1872? Mr. GLADSTONE said he was unable to explain when he was interrupted. In 1872 the Queen was in London throughout March. In 1882 her Majesty had made arrangements to go to Mentone. Here then was the reason of the "public necessity" at length disclosed. It is only due to the noble lords and gentlemen who had for an hour or more been obstructing shoulder to shoulder with Mr. BIGGAR to say that the disclosure overwhelmed them with shame. Mr. GLADSTONE's reticence was instantly appreciated. Lord PERCY did not require to be reminded of the parliamentary usage that seals a Minister's lips when her Majesty is in question, and it was genuine contrition that dictated the handsome apology he at once offered to the Prime Minister. It was accepted with corresponding grace. Mr. BIGGAR, on the contrary, declared his belief that the right hon. gentleman took pleasure in the exercise of his powers under this act, upon which the Speaker cautioned him that if he persisted in ininputting unworthy motives to Mr. FORSTER it would be necessary to take summary measures with him.

Mr. HEALY, however, was Mr. HEALY still. He was sorry to break upon this happy family reconciliation, but he admired the loyalty more than the logic of his recent allies. He thought one estate of the realm was as good as another, and if the Queen was going to Mentone she might come back again if public necessity demanded. Mr. ARTHUR O'CONNOR also saw no reason why he should not stand to his guns. No more did Mr. O'DONALD, who forthwith moved to reduce the vote by the amount spent on the soldiery in Ireland, and divided the House once more before, at four o'clock, the doorkeeper was allowed to call out, "Who goes home?"

THE TRIAL OF DR. LAMSON.

The trial of George Henry Lamson for the murder of Percy Malcolm John was resumed on Tuesday morning at the Central Criminal Court, before Mr. Justice HAWKINS. At the commencement of the proceedings the court was very full, and the attendance of ladies was larger than usual. Mr. MONTAGU WILSON having concluded his address for the defence, the Solicitor-General rose to reply. He said, first of all, did the boy die from natural causes? The whole of the medical evidence went to prove that whatever was the cause of death it was not a natural death. No witness had been called to say that the death had been caused by any one of natural causes; and it was impossible to doubt that poison, and nothing but poison, was the cause of death. What, then, was the nature of that poison? The refusal of the Home Office to allow the presence of an analyst on behalf of the prisoner had been complained of by his learned friend, but the question was whether this was not on the whole a sound and good practice. These two gentlemen were not appointed for the prosecution; they were nominated calmly by the Home Office as men of science, calmly to discover the cause of death, and if another person had been present the day after during such a critical process, asking questions and making suggestions, would it not have tended rather to distract the analyst and render him less likely to make mistakes? Could the boy have taken the poison? The evidence of Dr. STEVENSON as to the tests which he had made, particularly that of the urine, it was not aconitine that caused the symptoms, was conclusive. Further, Dr. STEVENSON was not content to rely upon the test of taste, but he made experiments with animals, the nature of which proved that the effects were precisely the same as that of the taste which was tried by the witness Dr. STEVENSON. Here, then, they had two points established—no way of accounting for death by natural causes and this deadly poison found in the body. Supposing this to be established, how was aconitine administered? Counsel for the defence had suggested that the boy had taken it himself, but when was it likely he had taken it? Throughout the day the boy had been in excellent spirits, had not complained at all, and why then should he have taken anything? Where could he get aconitine from? A drug so rare that many medical

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Great Britain.

LONDON, MARCH 14—15, 1882.

PARLIAMENTARY MANNERS.

Parliamentary manners seem rather to justify the too often quoted criticism of the seaman on the natives of a South Sea island. Very recently a well meaning person, in a twaddling book, advised the young to study the courtesy of Parliamentary manners. If the young really model themselves on Mr. Healy, Mr. Biggar, Lord Eustace Cecil, and Lord Percy, they will soon find themselves regarded with disdain in decent society. In the long wrangles of Monday night members seem to have lost their tempers, and to have forgotten their manners rather more than usual. We do not know that any one, as has happened now and then in the last three years, used words which the Captain in *Pinafore* employed, "never, or hardly ever." No one seems to have "sworn" in a sense not required of Mr. Bradlaugh. But the Speaker had to rebuke language which would have been deemed unseemly in a bargees' debating society, if debating societies are frequented by bargees. Mr. Sexton described treatment to which he had been subjected in prison, and we cannot easily express our sense of its inhumanity, even if Mr. Sexton had been imprisoned on a criminal charge. Turnkeys are officials, all officials are pestilent fellows in a general way, and turnkeys seem to be apt to abuse their opportunities. Accepting Mr. Sexton's evidence, this is the conclusion which we should draw. But Mr. Biggar drew quite another conclusion. He accused Mr. Forster of "taking the most intense delight in administering the Coercion Act." As the Coercion Act is represented as diabolically cruel in its administration, we must presume that Mr. Biggar thinks Mr. Forster diabolically cruel. Mr. Forster is a fiend in human shape, a kind of Quilp, in fact, who takes pleasure in preventing the Suspects from playing at marbles, and in forbidding Mr. Parnell to knock down at taw. Some ladies had sent chess and marbles (including, we trust, "commeys" and "ally tors") to Kilmarnham, and the prisoners were not allowed to use these toys. They were fed on "corduroy beef," which, Mr. Healy says, has all the qualities of the beef supplied by Mr. Squeres to his pupils, except tenderness. All this is a very revolting account of Kilmarnham, and, if the account be strictly accurate, we trust that changes may be introduced into the management of that prison. But Mr. Biggar went too far when he said that the administration of the Coercion Act was a source of intense delight and sparkling joy to Mr. Forster. Mr. Biggar's sayings fall into the category of the infinitely little. They are of no importance in themselves, but if almost any one else behaved like Mr. Biggar the dignity of the House might suffer seriously. Mr. Biggar was by no means the only offender. Mr. Healy expressed doubts as to whether Mr. Forster had "the heart of a man," a sort of scepticism which cannot surprise Mr. Forster, and by this time has probably ceased to irritate him. We never hear of Mr. Healy or his friends expressing any indignation when the midnight murderers in Ireland shoot men and women in the legs, and tortoise beasts and fire at babies. Doubtless Captain Moonlight and his fellows have the hearts of men; at all events Mr. Healy does not seem to have physiological doubts on the subject. It is at least as bad to drag a woman out of bed and fire shots into her legs as to prevent Mr. Parnell from playing at marbles. In the later hours of the debate Lord Eustace Cecil accused Mr. Gladstone of saying the thing that was not by "pretending a public necessity when he was really asserting his own imperious will." Lord Percy was later understood to express the same sort of view of the Prime Minister's veracity. However, it seems that these noblemen meant something else, and both withdrew their remarks with a promptitude equal to that which moves Mr. Biggar's withdrawals. Peeps at all these amenities are not worse than Parliament was accustomed to in days when Burke criticised Lord North's legs, which he declared to be unbecoming thick. In the old Irish Parliament, when Grattan commented on his opponents' noses, and when a member was alluded to as the "white-livered coward shivering on the floor," Mr. Biggar would have seemed, perhaps, the pink of courtesy. It is not certain that our Parliamentary manners are much worse than they were in the days of duelling. Then a man could not easily "withdraw" his words, as Mr. Biggar does so readily now, because he would have been suspected of an aversion to "going out" in the militant, not in the social, sense of the term. By this time we might have had to lament the loss of Mr. Biggar if pistols were still the means of settling questions of etiquette. But perhaps not even Fighting Fitzgerald would have gone out with Mr. Biggar.—*Times*.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—TUESDAY.

The Lord CHANCELLOR took his seat on the woolsack at five o'clock.

The Earl of REDESALE, in presenting a petition in favour of his Parliamentary Declaration Bill, said he had fixed the second reading of it for Thursday week. He hoped that noble lords would come to the consideration of the bill without prejudice, and would not treat it at all as a party affair.

The Settled Land Bill and the Conveyancing Bill, introduced by Lord CAIRNS, passed through Committee.

On the report of the latter bill, Lord COLVILLE urged an objection to the clause abolishing the office for taking the acknowledgments of married women. He suggested that the existence of this office was often a great protection to the property of married women.

Lord CAIRNS observed that although the bill passed through their Lordships' House last year the objection raised by Lord Colville was now put forward for the first time. The present system had long been regarded as an expensive one, for which there was no real necessity, and it would be rendered even less necessary by the Lord Chancellor's bill for the better protection of the property of married women.

The reports of both the Bills were received.

The Lord CHANCELLOR, in reply to Lord STANLEY of Alderley, said he thought the Commissioners who inquired into the Macclesfield election were fully justified in finding that Captain Pearson had committed bribery under the Act. Captain Pearson had had an opportunity of giving his explanations to the Commissioners and had done so before their finding.

In these circumstances, drawing a distinction laid down by the Act, he had felt it his duty to remove that gentleman from the Commission of the Peace. The three other magistrates censured by the Commissioners had not and could not possibly have been found to have committed bribery or any other offence. He had strictly followed precedent and given effect to the Act in suspending Captain Pearson.

Their lordships adjourned at 6 o'clock.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—TUESDAY.

The Speaker took the chair at four o'clock. Sir A. ORWELL gave notice, amid some cheering from both sides, that on Thursday he will put certain questions to the Irish Secretary in regard to the treatment of the "suspects" and the conduct of the trial of the number of hours of solitary confinement.

In answer to Mr. Lewis, the ATTORNEY-GENERAL said that the Government had no intention of moving a new writ for Oxford, whereupon Mr. Lewis gave notice that he would move a new writ next Tuesday; and Mr. T. Collins added that he would oppose it.

Mr. HARCOURT gave notice that on the adjourned debate on procedure being resumed he would move that it is inexpedient to proceed further with the subject to the postponement of other business of more importance to the country.

In answer to Mr. DILWELL, who asked for an extension of the time granted to the Basement for the acceptance of the ultimatum forwarded to them, Mr. Courtney said the matter rested entirely with the Coercion Government.

In answer to an appeal from Mr. ANDERSON, Mr. Gladstone declined to postpone the *cloture* resolution until after Rule 2 (adjournment at question time) and Rule 12 (Supply on Monday).

Mr. BROADHURST brought before the House the grievance of the Navy fitters, who complain that work which properly belongs to them in the construction of men-of-war is intrusted to shipwrights, to the detriment of the public service (of which he gave several instances) and he moved a resolution condemning the present practice of putting men to work to which they are untrained, and of paying superfluous wages, and making authority over workmen with whose names they have no practical acquaintance. Mr. Slagg opposed the motion.

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Mr. T. B. POTTER, M.P., has received from Mr. Poultney Bigelow, the Cobden Club correspondent in New York, a letter informing him that the volume of the club has been stopped at the passage round the American post-office, and made the subject of the payment of a duty. Although many volumes of the Cobden Club have been posted to the United States, no such unfriendly attack upon English literature has been previously made. Mr. Bigelow states that a tax of twenty cents is being levied upon the volume of essays on local government and taxation which Mr. Probyn lately edited.

CONVICTION OF LAMSON.

In the concluding sentences of his summing up in the trial of Dr. Lamson on Tuesday, Mr. Justice HAWKINS earnestly begged the jury to remember that theirs was the responsibility, and that theirs would be the judgment, as to whether or not their duty in being influenced either by the sympathy evoked by the account of the dead lad's sufferings and death, or by that which would naturally impress the living man's relatives.

The jury were absent about thirty-seven minutes, and were obviously prepared with a verdict of guilty when they returned. The prisoner had been absent for most of the time, but had returned to the dock to sign, while yet his signature was untaught, and the document presented to him by his solicitor.

His wife, who had been in court during his own counsel's speech, and had afterwards remained in one of the waiting rooms, had been taken away. The court was crowded, and not a few ladies had nervously themselves for a possible, and even probable, scene of painful exertion. After the jury were seated, and until the Judge gave his verdict, the prisoner was seated at the back of the dock, and a tall, fat constable planted himself between him and the jury so that he might not gather from their appearance what was to occur one else so obvious. When the Judge was seated the prisoner came forward with folded arms, bearing himself up with evident determination to acquit himself with courage. But during the tedious preliminary of calling over the names of the jury, the arms unfolded and the hands were crossed nervously on the front of the dock. When the verdict of "Guilty" was pronounced the wretched man started as if shot, and for a moment covered his face with his hands. Then he nervously pressed his hands once more on the front of the dock, and leaned forward for support. So intense was the excitement occasioned by the prisoner's demeanour among those who could see him that some failed to observe that in the gallery there was slight applause, which had to be checked by the

political friends in May, 1880. He married in 1841 Sarah Harriet, daughter of Mr. Thomas Finsen Dyson, of Willow Hall, York. He is succeeded in the baronetcy by his only son, Major James Dyson (Baron of Wales's) Dragon Guards, married to Lady Marian, only daughter of the late, and sister of the present Marquis of Ely.

The death is announced from diphtheria, at Philadelphia, of Lord George Francis Montagu, youngest brother of the Duke of Manchester.

He was nominated an attaché at the Foreign-office, and to Constantine in January, 1878. He was promoted to be a Third Secretary in 1879.

• POLITICAL AND SOCIAL ITEMS.

(FROM THE "STANDARD.")

The proposal for the increased annuity to Prince Leopold will probably be brought before the House of Commons next week. It is said that between forty and fifty members of the Radical Party will vote against the proposal.

The Lord's Committee to inquire into the working of the Irish Land Act met again on Tuesday. All the members of the Committee attended, Earl Cairns arriving about half an hour late. Mr. Overend, of Dublin, a barrister and agent, was the only witness examined.

The Committee adjourned till Thursday, when Mr. Townsend of Dublin, and Mr. Simon of Westford, will attend to give evidence.

The Queen has been pleased to approve the appointment of Sir Henry Lock, K.C.B., Governor of the Isle of Man, to the Commissioner of her Majesty's Woods and Forests vacant by the death of the Hon. James K. Howard.

(FROM THE "DAILY NEWS.")

The Prime Minister was, with a brief address, present to dinner, in the House of Commons on Monday-Tuesday for eleven hours. He was punctually in his place on Tuesday afternoon at half-past four, having left the House at four o'clock the same morning.

A movement is on foot amongst members of the Liberal party below the gangway to protest against the conduct of the police.

The Earl of STANLEY of Alderley, in the course of his speech, said that the police had been fully justified in finding that Captain Pearson had committed bribery under the Act.

Mr. DILWELL, of Oxford, asked for an extension of the time granted to the Basement for the acceptance of the ultimatum forwarded to them.

Mr. ANDERSON, of Oxford, moved that the House of Commons should adjourn.

Mr. T. B. POTTER, M.P., has received from Mr. Poultney Bigelow, the Cobden Club correspondent in New York, a letter informing him that the volume of the club has been stopped at the passage round the American post-office, and made the subject of the payment of a duty. Although many volumes of the Cobden Club have been posted to the United States, no such unfriendly attack upon English literature has been previously made. Mr. Bigelow states that a tax of twenty cents is being levied upon the volume of essays on local government and taxation which Mr. Probyn lately edited.

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In the concluding sentences of his summing up in the trial of Dr. Lamson on Tuesday, Mr. Justice HAWKINS earnestly begged the jury to remember that theirs was the responsibility, and that theirs would be the judgment, as to whether or not their duty in being influenced either by the sympathy evoked by the account of the dead lad's sufferings and death, or by that which would naturally impress the living man's relatives.

The jury were absent about thirty-seven minutes, and were obviously prepared with a verdict of guilty when they returned. The prisoner had been absent for most of the time, but had returned to the dock to sign, while yet his signature was untaught, and the document presented to him by his solicitor.

His wife, who had been in court during his own counsel's speech, and had afterwards remained in one of the waiting rooms, had been taken away. The court was crowded, and not a few ladies had nervously themselves for a possible, and even probable, scene of painful exertion. After the jury were seated, and until the Judge gave his verdict, the prisoner was seated at the back of the dock, and a tall, fat constable planted himself between him and the jury so that he might not gather from their appearance what was to occur one else so obvious. When the Judge was seated the prisoner came forward with folded arms, bearing himself up with evident determination to acquit himself with courage. But during the tedious preliminary of calling over the names of the jury, the arms unfolded and the hands were crossed nervously on the front of the dock. When the verdict of "Guilty" was pronounced the wretched man started as if shot, and for a moment covered his face with his hands. Then he nervously pressed his hands once more on the front of the dock, and leaned forward for support. So intense was the excitement occasioned by the prisoner's demeanour among those who could see him that some failed to observe that in the gallery there was slight applause, which had to be checked by the

When the prisoner again endeavoured to stand upright it seemed as if he would fall, but the each side and behind—of officers—one on each side and behind—of give him support raised him a little, and he seemed to wish them to leave him alone. When asked if he had anything to say why sentence of death should not be passed upon him, he folded his arms, held himself upright, and said, in a firm voice, "Merely to protest my innocence before God." During a brief, terrible pause the prisoner, standing with downcast head, and again seeking support on the front of the dock, was observed furiously to watch the horribly significant action of the Judge as he placed the black cap on his head, and then to shut his eyes, to change colour, and to give signs of a disposition to faint. As the Judge began to pronounce the dread sentence, the prisoner, recovering himself again at the renewed consciousness of the conspicuous support being rendered him by the police officers, bowed slightly at Mr. Justice Hawkins's statement that the law commanded him to pass the sentence of death. The Judge mercifully refrained from aggravating the torture of the prisoner with many words; a few he uttered were apparently as trying to him to say as to the more sensitive of the audience to hear. The formal sentence with his horrid detail as to the disposal of the body in the precincts of the prison, was soon pronounced, and the doomed man was half led, half carried out of the dock.

THE FIGHTING GANGS OF LONDON.

The fighting gangs of London have an organisation almost as complete as that of the police.

They are not by any means a small number.

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PRICE 40 CENTIMES

NOTICE.

A four-page Supplement is published with this day's number of the MESSENGER, and will be delivered gratis with each copy of the paper. It contains our American news and an interesting variety of literary extracts.

Great Britain.

LONDON, MARCH 15—16, 1882.

RUSSIA, AUSTRIA, AND GERMANY.

The exclusion of Russia from the Austro-German Alliance is a factor in European politics second only in importance to the Austro-German alliance itself. The negotiations and the interviews of last year have proved unavailing. General Skobeleff has received a scathing rebuke from the Czar for his indiscreet and aggressive frankness of speech; but the fact remains that he spoke the truth, and that this is recognised not less in Germany than in Russia. It is perfectly open to Russia at any moment to take a step which Germany would regard as a *causus belli*; but we think it in the highest degree improbable that she will do anything of the sort. If, indeed, she were to wage on a more demonstrative a scale than she has hitherto done the "unofficial war" against Austria in the Herzegovina and in other parts of the Balkan Peninsula—if, in fact, she were to repeat the tactics which she adopted towards Turkey in the critical moment of her embarrassments six years ago, the inevitable and speedy result would be a rupture of diplomatic relations between Berlin and St. Petersburg. We speak within the limits of our positive knowledge when we say that the Russian Government have been thoroughly enlightened by Germany on this matter. Our Vienna correspondent has given an abstract of an article which has just appeared in the *Politische Correspondenz*, discussing the possibility of an occupation of the Balkans by Turkish troops. "Such an occupation," he says, "at the present moment without any palpable reason, would meet with the very strongest opposition from the Powers—an opposition which it is very unlikely the Sultan will face." We go no further than this. We can say that the Porte has actually made this suggestion to Germany, and that Prince Bismarck has replied that it could only be possible on the remote and violent hypothesis that something like a concentration of Russian troops took place on the north of the Balkans. The meaning of this is obvious. The German Chancellor is quite willing to keep the military temper of Turkey a few degrees above zero. What he has no intention of doing is to precipitate a war. He has, therefore, given the Porte to understand that it must confine its action within certain strictly-defined limits—for the present. The Turks are willing, are perhaps anxious, to kindle a general conflagration. Prince Bismarck has decided that if there is to be such a conflagration, the match shall be applied by Russia. He has, as we have said, told Russia how she may do this if she will—since he has told her what she is to abstain from doing. We believe that the Czar—General Skobeleff and General Ignatoff notwithstanding—will not disregard this monitor. Indeed, there is no doubt that the measure of Russian encouragement which they had already received is in process of being withdrawn from the insurgent tribes in the Herzegovina. But though for these reasons we do not anticipate any immediate re-opening of the Eastern Question in its "acute form," and though we are satisfied that the hostile demonstrations now being exchanged between Germany and Russia are for practical purposes of little more than newspaper significance, the real gravity of the situation remains. The present state of things between Austria and Germany on the one hand, and Russia on the other amounts to this—that the two parties (for it is only with two that we have to deal) are awaiting the moment they may find most convenient for initiating hostile action. We have said nothing of France and Italy. The differences between these two countries are many and great, but they are temporarily suspended, and while this continues to be the case, an additional influence makes itself felt on the side of peace among the Powers of Eastern Europe. No one can pretend to estimate too nicely the value of this influence, in view of the ominous circumstance that the balance as between Germany and Russia is so delicately adjusted that the accident of an accident might disturb it. Diplomacy, however skilful, possesses no safeguard against mistakes and misapprehensions. The indiscretion of an individual—the ebullitions, for instance, of another Skobeleff—might upset all the most careful combinations of Cabinets. All that can be said is that there is no imminent risk of war between Germany and Russia, for the simple reason that war would just now be highly inconvenient to both. Prince Bismarck, moreover, is known to entertain the opinion, which is certainly strongly held in Russia itself, that a great international struggle would be of real internal advantage to the Empire of the Czar, and that domestic conspiracy and disintegration may only too probably accomplish all, and more than all, the ruin that would be the consequence of a great military defeat. The preservation of peace, in a word, is a matter that largely depends upon the tact and influence which diplomacy and statesmanship can assert. They are highly tempered and delicate instruments; and it would be the height of folly to trust to them overmuch.—*Standard*.

THE COMMERCIAL TREATY WITH FRANCE.

Further correspondence has been published respecting the attempted negotiation of a new commercial treaty between Great Britain and France. The present blue-book brings down the negotiations for the proposed treaty to their close on February 28, with a declaration prolonging the existing Anglo-French treaties, except as to tariff stipulations, until May 15, and with a Convention for regulating the commercial and maritime relations between the two countries. Under the now-existing law, goods of English origin or manufacture are liable on their entry into France to the same treatment as those of the most favoured nations; but this provision is not applicable to colonial produce, which remains subject to the general Customs tariff.

On March 1, Lord Lyons writes to offer Earl Granville:

"My best thanks for depiting Mr. Crowe to assist me in the communications with the French Government respecting the proposed commercial treaty, which I was directed to undertake by your despatch of the 10th ultimo. Mr. Crowe's judgment and tact, as well as his activity, and, I may add, patience, in the difficult and discouraging circumstances in which the negotiation has been carried on, have been most remarkable."

Earl Granville in like manner expresses to Lord Lyons:

"The appreciation of her Majesty's Government for the services which you have rendered in the course of these negotiations, and in the conclusion of the treaty which was signed on the 28th of last month. The result of your Excellency's efforts have been of great value in procuring the ultimate conclusion of an arrangement, and both on this account and for the support which you have been able to give to the British Commissioners during a long and difficult negotiation, they request you to accept their best acknowledgments and thanks."

The blue-book closes with the following dispatch, in which the Foreign Secretary acknowledges the services of the Royal Commissioners for conducting the French commercial negotiations:

"Foreign Office, March 2.

"Gentlemen.—On the termination of the commercial negotiations with France, I desire to express the entire satisfaction of her Majesty's Government with your proceedings, and to convey their thanks for the manner in which you conducted these negotiations, and for the advice and assistance which you have afforded, since the close of the sittings of the Joint Commission, in the arrangement which has now been come to with the French Government."

The result of these communications, although it has not realized the wishes of her Majesty's Government for an amelioration of the *status quo*, was anticipated as a very possible contingency by my despatch to you of the 24th of May last. In that despatch I set forth the grounds on which an expectation might be entertained that, in the interest alike of the French Treasury and people, even if an actual advance in the direction of free

trade should not be resolved upon, certain changes such as those in her tariff, would favour French industry, and which can scarcely delay the progress of collection, might be abandoned by the French Government. But I stated at the same time that the answers returned to notes exchanged preliminary to formal negotiations, as well as the manner in which these negotiations had been opened, did not appear very favourable to a speedy and satisfactory agreement. From the nature of the case great discretion as to details was left to you. I suggested the principles which, in the opinion of her Majesty's Government, might be adopted with advantage to give effect to "the basis of "amelioration du *status quo* commerciale," laid down officially by M. Léon Say when French Ambassador at this Court, and I instructed you, in the event of this basis being impracticable, "to preserve in their spirit, if not in the letter of their terms, the engagement of 1860."

"The refusal of the French Commissioners to maintain *ad valorem* duties rendered it more necessary for you to consult the trades affected by the proposed changes of classification and rates of duty in the French tariff, and I desire to express my sense of the industry with which you made yourselves acquainted with the views of different branches of commerce in the United Kingdom, and also of the care and patience with which you brought the matter before the French Commission, and urged full consideration of them. When the French Government declined to accede to your proposals for the maintenance of the *status quo*, or to agree to maintain, temporarily at least, *ad valorem* duties for the descriptions of goods, with respect to which an understanding had not been come to, no agreement on matters of tariff could, as I had anticipated as a possible contingency in my despatch of the 24th of May, be arrived at.

"In the end, as I also anticipated in this event, an arrangement has been made by the French Government for most-favoured-nation treatment in regard to Customs duties on imports from the United Kingdom, and a treaty has now been concluded which relieves the stipulations of the existing treaties relative to subjects, shipping, trade marks, and certain other matters."

"Under the circumstances, her Majesty's Government feel assured that the country will consider the whole result as not unsatisfactory; and, although special tariff stipulations have not been renewed, the conciliation and firmness which you displayed in the negotiations contributed largely to the final arrangements.—I am, etc., "GRANVILLE."

The following correspondence has also taken place on this subject:

"St. Etienne, March 8.

"From the President of the Chamber of Commerce to the President of the Chamber of Commerce, Bradford.

"Sir,—The Chamber of Commerce of St. Etienne is wishful to see the commercial relations between France and England maintained, in the past, and, if possible, still further developed. It is with regret that it hears that negotiations are for now. Treaty of Commerce have failed again. This Chamber does not possess the information to enable it to understand the cause of this rupture. It would seem as if the English regarded their interests as labouring under a disadvantage from the substitution of specific duties for *ad valorem* duties. The Chamber of Commerce here would esteem it a favour, Sir, if you would furnish some information with proof to support, which would enable it to place this question before the French Government, and to prove, in fact, that England could not accept what has been proposed, seeing it was an aggravation of the policy which has existed since 1860."

"The Chamber of Commerce here would be very glad to hear from you whether the commercial interests of England would not be satisfied with the continuation, pure and simple, of the Treaty as it has existed since 1860. This appears to be the most rational basis on which negotiations could be renewed."

"Accept, Sir, etc.

"F. Gewert, President of the Chamber of Commerce."

"Bradford Chamber of Commerce, Exchange, Bradford, March 14.

"Sir—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your esteemed letter of the 8th, and on the part of the Bradford Chamber of Commerce to assure you that we share your regret at the rupture of the Treaty negotiations.

"The documents which accompany this letter prove that the unfortunate result of those proposed negotiations cannot be attributed to the British Commissioners or to the Chambers of Commerce, whose opinions they necessarily considered. Both fully appreciated the injurious effect of prolonged uncertainty upon the commercial relations of the two countries, and the official papers show that both were throughout animated by the most conciliatory spirit. If anywhere, the cause of the rupture must be traced to the protectionist views of the French negotiators."

"Her Majesty's Government went even so far as to object in principle to the substitution of specific rates for *ad valorem* duties, although they were fully convinced of the impossibility of weighty duties acting fairly towards the majority of the textiles produced in this district. All that Great Britain insisted upon was that a new Treaty must be an improvement upon the one of 1860. This Chamber has done everything in its power to assist the joint Commission to arrive at a practical solution of the immensely difficult problem how to arrange a specific tariff in such a manner as not to be more onerous than one based upon the purely *ad valorem* principle. It was at infinite pains in the preparation of samples, prices, and calculations of averages, and it is a matter of just complaint that more notice was not taken by the French Commissioners of the offers to substantiate the accuracy of those data. Without entering into matters which are so fully discussed in the official documents, I may mention that proposals were made in succession by the French negotiators, every one of which was carefully studied by the Tariff Committee of this Chamber, with the result that even their last proposal was found to impose duties varying from 12% to 30 per cent. on the value of the bulk of Bradford exports. On the 28th of last month, the joint Commission adjourned they would give up the matter to the lawyers. The Government, he insisted, were bound to deal immediately with the congestion of business, with arrears, and with evictions.

"Mr. Gladstone said he only agreed in one

point in Mr. Lowther's speech, that it was

the business of the Government to propose at the proper time what measures might be necessary to facilitate the working of the Land Act; but he pointed out that in the last month there had been an acceleration in the proceedings of the Court. The Government wished to wait for a certain time to see what the real powers of the Court were before considering whether any new means of action should be provided; and if the debate were adjourned they would give up the matter to the lawyers.

"Colonel Nolan, Mr. Dickinson, Mr. Mulholland and Mr. Biggar also spoke, urging the shortcomings of the Bill; Mr. Lewis and Sir J. M. Kenna held that nothing would settle the land question but an extension of the purchase clauses; Mr. Sexton described the Bill as a contemptible measure; and Mr. Healy also spoke of it in a similar strain. On a division the motion for adjournment was carried, by 171 to 86.

"The other orders were disposed of, and the House adjourned at seven minutes to 6 o'clock.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—WEDNESDAY.

Mr. McCOAN moved the second reading of the Municipal Franchise (Ireland) Bill, the object of which is to assimilate the franchise in Ireland to the English franchise. Mr. W. E. Forster accepted the principle of the Bill; but Mr. C. Lewis denounced it as a democratic measure and a degradation of the franchise; while Mr. Palmer thought that little interest was felt in the matter by householders and owners of property. Several Irish members spoke in favour of the bill, and in the end it was read a second time.

Mr. FINDLAYER moved the second reading of the County Courts (Ireland) Bill, the object of which is to facilitate appeals in equity cases from the County Courts. Mr. Gibson and the Attorney General for Ireland thought the bill unnecessary, as the Lord Chancellor had recently made an order enlarging the jurisdiction of the Vice-Chancellor, and ultimately the debate was adjourned.

Mr. MORSE moved the second reading of the Judgments (Inferior Courts) Bill, the object of which is to make valid in each of the three kingdoms the judgments pronounced in the inferior Courts of the others. It is, in fact, an extension of the Act of 1868, which allows the judgments of the Supreme Court to run throughout the United Kingdom, and is an effort towards the assimilation of the law of the three kingdoms. The Attorney-General and the Solicitor-General for Ireland supported the Bill; while the Lord Advocate thought that it would require some modification. Mr. H. Palmer, Mr. Warton, Mr. Callan, and others spoke, and ultimately the Bill was read a second time.

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NICE—15, Quai Masséna.

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Great Britain.

LONDON, MARCH 16—17, 1882.

THE ANTI-CLERICAL MOVEMENT IN FRANCE.

The decision by the Chamber of Deputies to consider M. Boyer’s proposal for the abrogation of the Concordat a few days ago is one of the latest steps in a movement which has gone on with increasing strength. The silent feature of the policy of M. Ferry’s Government was a militant spirit towards the Church and all its works. If we have forgotten Article 7, the execution of the decrees of the 29th of March, and the dispersion of the ecclesiastical congregations, it is because many things of a similar kind have since occurred. Of the anti-clerical character of M. Gambetta’s Government it is enough to say that M. Paul Bert was Minister of Public Worship; and the same hostile attitude towards the Church appears under the more conciliatory régime of M. de Freycinet. Looking

at this long anti-clerical triumph, this quick succession of sharp blows struck at the Church by one administration after another without general protest or much resistance, one is tempted to ask what has become of the old France which even the most bigoted and fanatical, which made pilgrimages to shrines, which believed in modern miracles and ancient relics, which read with avidity the lives of Maria de la Fruglaye, Mère Marie-Julie, and similar pious biographies, which liked its daughters to be educated by *religieuses* and sent its sons to the Jesuit seminaries rather than to the *lycées*. Has this France disappeared? Have the *Vie de Jésus*, M. Comte and M. Lafitte, M. Ferry, and M. Paul Bert been too much for the Catholic Church, and have we come to a time when the French peasant has become a sceptic, the Legitimist nobleman a worshipper of aggressive progress, and when the *bourgeois* merely believes in steam, electricity, and cuisine? We used to hear much about the *anciens partis* in France, people of the old stock, who were not abreast of their time and did not mind admitting it, and who did not much like novelties. The oldest, the most stubborn and most obstinate section of those irreconcilable and inconsistent men who were devoted to the Church, and who regarded a struggle for its interests as synonymous with true Conservatism. In the events which have occurred in France since the Republic was firmly consolidated, it is difficult to trace the full influence of this body, which was too much for the secular powers. The “party of intolerance” has of late been grudging tolerance. It is obliged to succumb or content itself with spasmodic and futile opposition. No wonder that the Bishops in their pastorals write in desponding tones as if the reign of Antichrist had arrived. And yet appearances may be here deceptive. Republican statesmen who assume that the foundation of the influence of the Church has crumbled away, and who could play the work of destruction with eagerness and with confidence that they will not be interrupted, may discover that they are in error. The old forces are in abeyance. A little stimulus, however, may revive them and bring about a reaction. The anti-clerical publications, which circulate by myriads among the workmen of large towns, are a notable sign of the times. Yet they are not very effective weapons against the Church. Coarse and offensive, the productions of half-educated fanatics, they are revolting to the free-thinker who has any good feeling, literary taste, or historical sentiment. Such a publication as *La Bible Comique*, which is now coming out in numbers, and in which scriptural narratives are obscenely burlesqued and travestied, is more likely to create sympathy with the priesthood than to help the success of the anti-clerical propaganda. Notwithstanding the advantages which the *lycées* offer, many parents do and will prefer their children to be elsewhere than under the care of a raw *maitre d’école*, who is a scholastic drudge, who regards his pursuits as a mere stepping-stone to something better, and as almost a state of servitude. Fashionable ladies like to send their boys to holy fathers, who are very good people in their way, who have added to their ordinary vocation the *reue d’instruction*, who are kind to their pupils, and who look after their health, give them generous nourishment, and allow them to play the games a boy is fond of. It is easy to find fault with the education imparted by clerical instructors. Its weak points are many and glaring. Mawkish sentimentalities, a flimsy sort of goodness, childish perversions of history, like the Abbé Gaume’s book, with a little Latin and plain song and intolerant twaddle, do not make up a very virile education. There are exceptions, to be sure; the pupils of some seminaries are said to compete successfully with those trained in the *lycées*. But undoubtedly the man who has got the full advantage of an ordinary Clerical school is likely to come out of it a rather poor creature, ignorant of the ways of the world, the ready-made victim of M. Bontoux, of the Union Générale, and with unsubstantial principles not made to stand the wear and tear of life. Yet this sort of training has its admirers among people who are not exactly fools. We might wish it to be otherwise. But the facts are as we have stated, and are sure to remain so. A nation’s character is not changed in a few years. The bigots, dependent upon it, are bigots still, though noisy or visible. The people who have no definite or precise ideas about the proper domain of Church or State, but

who dislike to see either tyrannising, and who honour, more or less, both the *cure* and the *gendarmerie*, are very much what they were before M. Jules Ferry and M. Paul Bert were heard of. They have been silenced, but not converted by the triumphs of the extreme Republican party. Only let it be generally supposed that the Church is to be pressed to the utmost; that the Government want to secularise all institutions; and it is pretty certain that the old France, the France which went on pilgrimages, which is very pious when it is ill, and not particularly profane when it is well, which now gives so few signs of life, which is outworn everywhere, would make its influence felt in a formidable way.

Lord De La Ware asked whether there was any objection to lay upon the table a return of the number of *paroisses* and Europeans in the employment of the Egyptian Government, with their salaries, and also any correspondence or information on the subject of exemption from certain taxes enjoyed by foreign residents in Egypt.

Lord Granville replied that some time ago instructions were sent to Sir E. Malet to obtain such a return as that mentioned in the first part of the noble lord’s question. When it was procured there would be no objection to lay it on the table. When the correspondence referred to in the second part of the question was complete it would be produced.

The Slave Mirr (Gunpowder Bill) was read a third time and passed, and the House adjourned at twenty minutes past five.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—THURSDAY.

The Lord CHANCELLOR took his seat on the woolsack at five o’clock.

Lord STANHOPE presented a Bill to prohibit the payment of wages in public-houses.

The Bill was read a first time.

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HOUSE OF COMMONS.—THURSDAY.

The Speaker took the chair at four o’clock.

QUESTIONS.

Several questions having been put to the Home Secretary as to whether he would issue special instructions to the local magistrates to suppress the street processions of the “Salvation Army,” on the one hand, and for the protection of that body from mob ruffianism and occasional magisterial weakness on the other, Sir W. Harcourt replied that he had no power to give such directions. Those who were in the commission of the peace had the responsibility of preserving the peace, and if they applied to the Secretary of State he was bound to give them such advice and assistance as was in his power. The advice he had offered in the case of Exeter, Stamford, and Salisbury, so far as he knew it had answered its purpose. If magistrates did not use the necessary means to preserve the peace they were liable to a criminal information for not doing their duty. While strongly condemning those who attacked persons who were holding meetings for laudable objects, he could not command the prudence of those who encouraged processions which experienced tended to disorder and violence.

Mr. FORSTER informed Sir A. O’Conor that they were having made inquiries as to whether, with a due regard to the maintenance of prison discipline, the safe custody of the prisoners, and preventing them from inflicting to the outside for which they were destined, it would be safe to do with the “suspects” in the Irish prisons for association and exercise, he was glad to say that that might be done, and that half an hour would be given them for exercise in the morning and an hour and a half in the evening after supper.

THE LAND ACT.

Notice was given by Mr. W. H. SMITH that on an early day after Easter he would call attention to certain provisions of the Land Act, and move that further legislation was imperatively required to enable tenants to acquire the freehold of their occupations.

The House having resolved itself into Committee of Supply.

Mr. T. A. TWEEDIE made the usual statement of the Navy Estimates. At the outset, he described the steps which have been taken to improve the condition and prospects of the Royal Marines. As regards the officers, every lieutenant will receive his promotion after 12 years’ service without forcing any officer out of the service; and the staff of officers, 356 as against 391, which has now been fixed as the establishment, will fully suffice for all the duties and keep up the flow of promotion. At the same time, the pay and other advantages of non-commissioned officers and men have been raised in the same proportions as the pay, etc., of the regular Army. Next he touched on the changes in the engineering department, stating that the number of officers will for the present be fixed at 650 instead of 680, the present establishment of 832, and the duties for which commissioned officers are not needed will be gradually transferred to the class of engine-room artificers, and decreasing the engineers as long as their united number does not exceed 800. Into the proposals of the Admiralty to improve the pay and stimulate the promotion of the Naval Engineers Mr. Trevelyan went in much detail, and in like manner he described minutely the advantages proposed to be conferred on the warrant officers. Passing from the personnel of the Navy to the financial portion of the subject, he stated that the net burden on the taxpayer this year is £10,436,901, which, making the necessary deductions for the Transvaal and the expense of the war, is an increase of £3,000 on the expenditure of last year.

But the actual spending power of the Department, owing to extra receipts and the sale of old ships, will be increased by £80,000.

Toucheing on some of the principal details, he showed that all the votes, the size of which depends on careful administration, show no tendency whatever to rise. The practical result of the expenditure in *matériel* is that 15,502 tons will be built in public yards and 4,640 tons in private yards, of which 11,466 tons are armoured ships. The Board does not propose to build ships of very great size or in any great variety, and will press on the ships in hand and get them afloat as soon as possible. Before the year is out two ironclads will be laid down, and the details of which will be specified later on; and, in addition to this, some of our existing ironclads will be repaired and made fit for service. As to guns, the *Conqueror* will this year be armed with the 45-ton gun, the *Majestic* and the *Colossus* will also be armed with it, and no large gun of the old type will be served out hereafter; and, after describing the properties of the new gun, he added that the Admiralty believed that a 60-ton gun would probably give us a high a power as it is necessary to obtain. The Admiralty propose to lay down a new auxiliary ship, like the *Polyphemus*, but smaller, cheaper, and handier, and the cruisers, such as the *Leander*, *Arethusa*, and *Phaeton*, will be pushed to completion. There is to be a sailing vessel constructed for training purposes this year; but the Commander-in-Chief on each station will collect his ships every season for a cruise in which officers and men will be trained in sailing manœuvres. Mr. Trevelyan concluded his speech by describing the principal features of the reorganisation of the Board which have already been made public.

Mr. W. H. SMITH, remarking that it was too late at 12.30 to enter on a consideration of the Estimates, asked for some assurance that an early opportunity would be given to discuss them and, after some conversation with the Marquis of Hartington engaged that, subject to any unforeseen emergency, the Navy Estimates would be fixed for some day in April, resuming work on the following Thursday week. There will be a morning sitting on the day of adjournment.

No information had been received at the Foreign Office up to a late hour on Thursday night confirming of a report in a French paper of a conversation between Lord Lyons and M. de Freycinet on the question of renewing the negotiations for the commercial treaty. It is thought that if there had been anything of importance in such a conversation Lord Lyons would have reported by telegraph.

A movement is on foot to call a general meeting of members of the Reform Club to discuss certain proposed alterations in the mode of electing members.

The suspension of the negotiations for the establishment of a copyright treaty between England and the United States is, we believe, due entirely to a lack of common action among the American publishers. The publishers in the Eastern States are desirous of bringing about a treaty that would be acceptable to English authors. The Western publishers, for obvious reasons, are desirous that matters should remain as they are.

THE EARTHQUAKE IN THE Isthmus of PANAMA.

The announcement of a destructive earthquake in Costa Rica renders such information as is at our command with reference to the distribution of the volcanic centres of this part of the Western world of more than ordinary interest. Some of the Maldonado tectones have been overthrown in this dangerous district.

With the sole exception of Java, Guatemala, and the country bordering on the Lake of

Nicaragua is the locality in which the largest number of volcanoes is to be found within a

FASHIONABLE NEWS.

The Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh visited the Prince and Princess of Wales on Thursday, and remained to luncheon.

The Prince of Wales visited the studios of Mr. C. E. Boehm, R.A., Mr. Sydney Hall, and Mr. H. Johnson, on Thursday afternoon.

His Royal Highness, attended by Colonel A. Ellis, was present on Thursday evening at the third concert of the Royal Amateur Orchestra, at St. Andrew’s Hall.

Prince Leopold left Buckingham Palace on Thursday morning for Claremont, to inspect the different arrangements being carried out there.

The Grand Duchess of Mecklenburg-Schwerin will arrive in London on Saturday.

Lord Balfour presented a P.G.M. of Scotland, and representative from the Grand Lodge of Scotland to the Grand Lodge of England, was present at the Special Grand Lodge held at Freemason’s Hall on Wednesday evening.

Lord Egerton is still progressing very slowly. He passed a quiet night on Wednesday, and takes nourishment much more frequently.

Lord and Lady Colchester have left Thomas’ Hotel.

Lord and Lady Esme Gordon have arrived at Thomas’ Hotel.

The Right Hon. Lord Justice and Lady Justice Egerton on Wednesday, in Enniskerry, the County of Galway, Lord and Lady Sudeley, Lord and Lady Tweedmouth, the Right Hon. Mr. Childers, Mrs. and Miss Childers, the Right Hon. Cavendish Bentinck, Mrs. and Miss Bentinck, the Hon. F. Bennett, the Hon. R. Keppel, Sir Charles Dilke, M.P., Mrs. A. Kennard, Mr. and Mrs. Brett.

Lady Hesketh has left Thomas’ Hotel.

The Right Hon. Earl of Winterton and Lady Georgiana Hamilton, daughter of the Duke and Duchess of Abercorn, were married at St. George’s Church, Hanover-square, on Thursday, when the Prince and Princess of Wales and the Duke of Cambridge were present.

Long before the arrival of the bride, the church was crowded, the seats in the centre of the church being reserved for the wedding party and distinguished friends. Lord Winterton came, early, attended by Mr. Barclay Field. The bridesmaids, namely, the Ladies Jane and Sybella Turnour, sisters of the bridegroom, and the Ladies Florence Ashton, Katherine Lambton, Francis Spencer-Churchill, and Evelyn Fitzmaurice, four nieces of the bride, were also early in attendance, and took their position near the church door, and there awaited the arrival of the bride, who came accompanied by the Duchess of Abercorn, and on alighting from the carriage was received by the Duke of Abercorn, who conducted his daughter to the altar. The bride wore a dress of ivory-white silk, with a Brussels lace trimmings, and orange blossoms. Her jewels were pearls and diamonds. The bridesmaids were dressed alike in very pretty Louis XIV. costumes, composed of red muslin’s cloth and plush bonnets trimmed with red and cream pompons, the two children wearing hats. Each wore a cat’s-eye-and-pearl bracelet, the gift of the bridegroom, and carried a bouquet of varied-coloured flowers. The marriage service was performed by the Rev. Lord Wriothesley Russell, M.A., Canon of Windsor, Rector of Chelms and Dagny Clerks of the Closet to the Queen, assisted by the Rev. Edward Capel, C.M., A.R.C., Rector of St. George’s, and for the benediction ceremony, the bride and bridegroom, preceded by the officiating clergy, passed to the vestry for the registration of the marriage, followed by the Prince and Princess of Wales, the Duke of Cambridge, and the Duke of Richmond and Gordon, who signed the register. The Prince and Princess of Wales left immediately afterwards, also did the Duke of Cambridge. The Duke and Duchess of Abercorn afterwards entertained the wedding party and a number of distinguished friends at breakfast at Hampden House.

The Grenadier Guards band, conducted by Mr. Dan Gurney, played in the garden during the afternoon, and a band selection of music.

Princess Mary Adelicia, Duchess of Teck, and the Duke of Teck breakfasted with the bride. Between two and three o’clock Lord Winterton and his bride left Hampden House for Miss Fetherstonhaugh’s seat, Appark, near Petersfield, for their honeymoon. The bride’s travelling dress was of sapphire velvet and satin, embroidered with satin heads, pelerine and bonnet to match. Lady Georgiana received a great number of wedding presents—upwards of 300—which were on view at Hampden House during the afternoon of Tuesday and Wednesday last. The Queen sent the bride a beautiful Indian shawl, the Prince and Princess of Wales a ruby, diamond, and pearl bracelet, the Princess Mary Adelicia, Duchess, and the Duke of Teck a case of silver salt cellar and spoons. The Freeman of the City of London sent out to the Duke of Abercorn, the Grand Master Mason of Ireland, presented Lady Georgiana with a present consisting of an old Irish cross pendant and earrings, set with brilliants and Irish pearls of great artistic design. The members of the households at Baron’s Court and Hampden House presented the bride with a silver tea service and tray in morocco case; the workmen at Baron’s Court, a gold bracelet set with pearls; and the school children at Baron’s Court, a satin cushion and russet leather blotting-case.

POLITICAL ITEMS.

(FROM THE “DAILY NEWS.”)

We understand there is no possibility of Mr. Gladstone’s making his financial statement before the adjournment for the Easter recess.

We understand that, according to present prospects, the House of Commons will adjourn for the Easter recess on Tuesday, the 1st of April, resuming work on the following Thursday week. There will be a morning sitting on the day of adjournment.

No information had been received at the Foreign Office up to a late hour on Thursday night confirming of a report in a French paper of a conversation between Lord Lyons and M. de Freycinet on the question of renewing the negotiations for the commercial treaty.

It is thought that if there had been anything of importance in such a conversation Lord Lyons would have reported by telegraph.

A movement is on foot to call

Galigiani's Messenger.

EVENING EDITION.

Head Office: PARIS, NO. 224, RUE DE RIVOLI.

Branch Office: LONDON, 168, STRAND; NICE, 15, QUAI MASSENA.

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Great Britain.

LONDON, MARCH 18-19, 1882.

THE NORTH BORNEO COMPANY.
The *Times* points out that the real question in last night's debate was too simple to be obscured by the special pleading of the Attorney-General or the fervid protestations of the Prime Minister. There need be no beating about the bush in the matter. As a simple statement of fact, we have, under cover of the grant of a charter to a private company, virtually annexed to the British dominions a territory nearly as large as England itself. Whether the proceeding was wise or not, the actual fact cannot be gainsaid. There was excellent sense and pertinence in the considerations which Lord Kimberley and Lord Granville urged in the Upper House; but which Mr. Gladstone, with echoes of Midlothian speeches ringing in his ears, and a keen presentiment of coming clamour from Radical platforms, found it convenient to ignore in the Commons. The territory thus acquired is valuable in many ways—valuable as a field for English enterprise, still more valuable as a station for the protection of our vast interests in the Pacific. The *Standard* does not complain that the Ministry has extended the limits of British sovereignty, but regrets that, having done so, it pretends that it has done nothing of the kind. The facts have but to be clearly stated to show how empty is the Ministerial plea.

The *Saturday Review* looks upon the incorporation of the company as a convenient way of doing as little as possible where something must be done, which is inconsistent with a policy of withdrawal and surrender. It is fortunate that a measure certain to lead to an extension of our dominions in the East should be due to a Liberal Ministry. It will have some chance of escaping being made the subject of party debates.

The *Spectator*, presuming that Lord Granville and Lord Kimberley explained the views of the Government with regard to the charter to the North Borneo Company, cannot admit that they have fairly answered the objections to its grant. Those objections were, in brief, three—that the annexation of North Borneo was a needless addition to British responsibilities; that such an addition ought not to have been made without parliamentary consent; and that, if it were to be made, it should have been made without the intervention of a company. If North Borneo was worth having it should have been annexed, with compensation, if needful, to Mr. Dent, and have been governed either through the Colonial Office, or through a company distinctly controlled on all points by a Minister of the Crown. The day for Sovereign companies has gone by. The *Spectator* would trust no one, not Lord Granville himself, with the powers which Mr. Dent and Sir Rutherford Alcock and their colleagues now possess. It is the charter which gives the company its strength, and under the charter it has rights which no Government with a conscience ought to allow to pass out of its own hands—rights of taxation, of seizing lands, and of monopolizing minerals, through which it may inflict an indefinite amount of injustice.

The *Morning Advertiser* believes that the British North Borneo Company are only following out the national tradition, and so far they seem to have imitated the precedents with success. Mr. Gorst may be content with the result of his action. He has impressed in a manner likely to act as a warning, the fact that in case the company fail to fulfil their charter engagement to put an end to slavery as soon as possible, the Crown has the legal power to abolish the charter. It is not likely the company will provoke such a disability.

THE LIBERAL FAINT-HEARTS.

That the Prime Minister has replied with a courteous negative to the Liberal memorialists who wish to condition for a two-thirds majority whenever the closure of debate is in question, will, the *Spectator* observes, be perfectly satisfactory to the great majority of his party, who, while they agree to the full with Sir John Lubbock, and other scrupulous Liberals, that there would be no misfortune greater than any gagging for free debate, yet believe, on the most convincing evidence, that there is much more to fear, even for the future weight and influence of free debate, from those obstructionists who try at every turn to stop the practical work of the House of Commons, than there is from those who wish to shorten deliberation, only that resolute action may follow that deliberation, within reasonable and moderate interval of time. What the great majority of Liberals believe is this—that a majority large enough to turn out a Government, a majority large enough to compel a total change of policy in the country, ought obviously to be accounted large enough, with the full consent of the Speaker—who is the appointed guardian of impartial debate—to decide that sufficient time has been given to deliberation, and that the moment for registering the opinion of the House has come. So far as we understand the arguments for a two-thirds majority, they are simply these—that whenever the majority are right and reasonable in their wish to shut the mouths of the minority, there will be at least a fair number of the minority to think so, and to avow by their conviction that, whatever the decision, the losing party have been fairly heard in argument against that decision. If, they say, the Speaker is right in believing, what he is to be required to declare, that the general sense of the House is in favour of closing the debate, then there must be some means of verifying that opinion of his, and what test can be better than the willingness of a fair number of the losing side to vote with the winning side on this preliminary point, and thereby to prove that weariness of talk is not confined to that side of the

House which hopes to win the day? How, they ask, is the Speaker to judge that the debate has been sufficiently prolonged? If by the general impatience of the House, then surely that general impatience will betray itself in the division list, and you will find many of those who anticipate a defeat perfectly willing to hasten that defeat rather than multiply further fruitless and redundant verbiage. Sir John Lubbock and his colleagues may mean well, but they do not allow sufficiently for the deep-rooted disposition of one party to think that it is not, and cannot be, called upon to assist, or even to hasten by a few hours, the triumph of the opposite party, on any issue on which it entertains a diametrically opposite opinion. Anything that requires a two-thirds majority in a full House would only result in making the right of closure utterly nugatory, a right which would only be exercised when the two great parties were agreed on the policy to be pursued, as well as on the sufficiency of the discussion by which it had been canvassed.

THE GOVERNMENT AND THE ARMY.

The able statement made by Mr. Childers, in introducing the Army Estimates under most unfavourable conditions, ought, the *Economist* observes, to excite interest outside the circle of military experts. It is not long since the condition and administration of the fighting services supplied one of the standing controversies of English political life. On the one hand, there were those who, taking an optimist view both of our insular security and of the progress of international morality, grudged every penny drawn from the taxpayer for military and naval expenditure beyond what was absolutely required for the most elementary purposes of self-defence. On the other hand, there were those who were so much impressed by the gigantic and increasing armaments of the Continental Powers, that they insisted that we should never be really safe until we adopted, in some form or other, the principle of compulsory military service. And between these extreme schools of opinion there was ample room for divergence of view as to the relative urgency at any given time of increased efficiency and increased economy, the habitual bias of the Conservatives being supposed to be towards the former, and that of the Liberals towards the latter. Though it would, of course, be going too far to say that these differences, which are due perhaps, almost as much to temperament and sentiment as to deliberate political conviction, have ceased to exist, yet it is unquestionably true that the last ten years have witnessed a gradual approximation of opinion on this important subject, which is fast removing it from the sphere of party politics. The reconstruction of our military system, which was begun by Lord Cardwell, was continued upon substantially the same lines by Lord Cranbrook and Colonel Stanley, and is being completed, without political opposition, by Mr. Childers. There is now all but complete agreement in principle upon such vital questions as the normal size of the army, the mode of recruiting it, the length of service, the rules of promotion, and the relation of the regular to the auxiliary forces. This being so, the scale of expenditure is necessarily fixed within certain not very elastic limits; and the difference between the rate at which the work of development is pushed on and the amount which it costs in one year or series of years as compared with another is mainly determined by the administrative capacity of the Minister. Without reversing any part of his predecessor's policy, Mr. Childers has succeeded, by a judicious combination of energy and tact, in extricating the new system from the confusion into which it had fallen; and after two years of his administration, we are appreciably nearer than we have ever been before to the possession of such an army as our peculiar exigencies require.

THE MEETING OF CONSERVATIVES.

The *Standard*, referring to the meeting at the Carlton Club yesterday, observes that the Conservative party stand in no need of consolidation; nevertheless, it is well that the leaders and the led should sometimes take counsel together. These assemblies convey a sense of corporate power; they prevent misunderstandings, and ensure an additional community of purpose; they revive discipline; they diffuse throughout the ranks an intensified feeling of esprit de corps.

Nor is the influence exercised by such a meeting as that of Friday confined within purely parliamentary limits. It applies a wholesome stimulant to the members of the party throughout the whole country. It is part of the work of the party to demonstrate that which will gain on Monday next nothing can be more desirable than that the Conservative party should not merely be united, but should convince the country they are united. The spectacle of organization is itself strengthening and stimulating.

The *Daily News*, commenting upon the statement that the Conservative meeting was entirely unanimous, says that of course under such conditions unanimity among the Conservative, was to be expected. The part they have to play is easy. For some of them it is the part which Bottom assigns to the lion—notthing but roaring. Let them roar at Mr. Gladstone in the House of Commons. Let them try to shout him and his measures down. That is all the service their leaders expect from them. The Conservatives may be as unanimous as they please, and as caustic as the can. The unanimity and the caustic will be of little avail until they can persuade the people of England that they, and not Mr. Gladstone and his colleagues, are the friends of political freedom.

THE NEW ATTITUDE OF FRANCE.

The *Economist* knows of no feature in the politics of the hour more remarkable, or more likely to deceive observers, than the present condition of France. To all appearance she has fallen into a political trance. It was only the other day that she insisted on electing her strongest man—a man upon whom the hopes of years had been centred—to the head, and began, under his guidance, to re-commence a great career:

He was supposed to have formed very large designs; his diplomacy began to feel in Europe; and in the East, particularly Egypt, he showed himself decided and energetic. All Europe believed that France was becoming again a powerful Power, and it might also be a troublesome one. Suddenly Mr. Gambetta fell, politicians searched him, and was succeeded by a Minister formerly an agent of his own, whose rôle was apparently quiescent. Great countries rarely change their character, nor does their history

alter much. France is, for the moment, out of spirits, and Frenchmen of all spirits are resigned; and the national character is not one which that mood lasts long. The French are sure, in a very short period, to wake up to their usual keen interest in what is passing, to express their usual susceptibility to the world's opinion, and to long for influence and dignity in Europe. The slightest—single speech from M. Gambetta—may inflame the whole country, while the statesmen are undoubtedly only watching until the tide flows again. The point at which the present quiescence will break up is not, of course, visible, but it will most probably be some occurrence in the East which will force France to decide whether her difference is to be a permanent one. Such an occurrence may happen any day, as may also some deadly quarrel among the groups of the Chamber now agreed in so wonderful and slightly suspicious an amity. The Chamber has hitherto failed to give a steady majority to any one, and is not very likely to give it to M. de Freycinet, just because he is willing to do the very least possible both at home and abroad. That inaction is acceptable to France during her momentary pause, but it is in consonance neither with her permanent temperament nor her real desire to retrieve the position in the world forfeited by the events of 1870 and their tremendous results.

PARLIAMENTARY SUMMARY.

In the House of Lords on Friday, Lord Redesdale stated that the Thibault bill, the 23rd of March, to make the present reading of the bill providing that before taking his seat every peer and every member of the House of Commons should affirm his belief in Almighty God, Lord Brabourne moved an address against the scheme of the Charity Commissioners for the management of Bedfellow's Charity. Lord Clinton and Lord Spencer defended the scheme, and denied that it would transfer the benefits of the foundation to a class for which they had not been intended. The motion was withdrawn, and their lordships adjourned at five minutes to six o'clock.

In the House of Commons on Friday, the Speaker, in answer to Sir S. Northcote as to the course of proceeding on the Closure Resolution, stated that if Mr. Marriott's amendment now before the House were negatived, the amendments of Sir T. Sinclair and Sir J. Lubbock, substituting a proportional for an absolute majority, would still be open for consideration.

THE NORTH BORNEO COMPANY.

On going into Supply, Mr. Gorst called attention to the charter recently granted to the North Borneo Company, which, he said, according to Lord Granville's own description of it was a piece of safe and cheap filibustering, and an attempt to extend British territory in an irresponsible way under the shelter of a trading company. He contended that the charter conferred on the company authority from the British Crown to acquire and exercise sovereign rights, and that it was not a commercial but a political company, and would inevitably involve us in difficulties with Spain, Holland, and the United States. In addition to this there must arise internal difficulties both with British and foreign subjects, but chiefly he laid stress on the disgrace and discredit which would be brought on the country and the British Empire by the annexation of a new colony of slavery, which he contended, was involved in the charter. He concluded by moving an address praying her Majesty to revoke or alter so much of the charter as gives an implied sanction to the maintenance of slavery. Mr. Dilwyn seconded the motion, regarding the transaction as an annexation of territory without the sanction of Parliament. The charter, he held, was diametrically opposed to former declarations of pretty nearly every Minister on the Treasury bench.

The Attorney-General complained that, while the motion related to slavery only, Mr. Gorst had attacked the whole policy of the transaction without notice. He pointed out that the company had acquired all its rights before the charter was granted, and the English Government had no power to interfere with it. The question, therefore, was not one of creating a colony, but of imposing on it certain restraints. The company's administration had already been beneficial to the natives; and as to slavery, the Government held the doctrine laid down by Lord Russell, and accepted and acted upon by the late Government in the case of the Gold Coast, that we had no right suddenly to abolish it, but to mitigate it and gradually bring it to an end.

Sir J. Hay expressed his entire approval of the extension of British influence in Borneo, which he believed would lead to the extirpation of piracy and slavery. Mr. Cropper thought the discussion had served a good purpose by eliciting the views of the Government on the slavery question, and Mr. H. Richard repeated the opinions of Mr. Dilwyn.

Mr. Gladstone pointed out that the carry the motion would not put an end to slavery in North Borneo, but would leave it uncontrollable and without any prospect of extinction. But as the matter concerned the company was bound to put an end to it or else to lose its charter. Protesting that he had always been opposed to annexation and that he held the responsibilities of the empire were sufficiently large, he maintained that in this instance our responsibilities and dangers in North Borneo had not been increased by a single act of the Government. They all existed before the charter, which, indeed, rather limited and reduced them. It was impossible to prevent Englishmen carrying their trade and forming their settlements outside the sphere of regular and organized establishments, and was it wise, therefore, for the Government to allow these enterprises to the extent to which they had been? He thought that the company obtained what it was asked to do by the conditions of the charter, and that the Government had a right to abolish it, but to mitigate it and gradually bring it to an end.

The *Spectator*, commenting upon the audacity displayed by Lamson in the frightful crime of which he has been convicted, suggests that, notwithstanding the temperament of the man is in the highest degree, independent of pre-circumstances, it is a remarkable point in this youthful half-bull; this being the middle of school term, and Easter falling early, it seems but few excets were allowed.

I am grieved to say that an occurrence took place, at this party, which if the daily papers had known of it would have furnished them with "thrills of horror" for a fortnight.

There were about a hundred and fifty little girls present and only about eighty boys, the first result of which was that the girls had to dance a good deal with each other. But it is the second result that makes me thrill with horror. Mr. Christopher Sykes being regarded as one of the boys, was set to dance with a little girl who, by pure fortune of war of course, turned out to be the smallest in the room. The effect of the majestic figure of Mr. Sykes on the mind of a collection of little girls can be conceived. And now comes the thrill. At a certain moment the little girls, as though moved by one accord, danced round Mr. Sykes and shouted "Jumbo! Jumbo!" What they meant, whether to convey that Mr. Sykes is likely to become dangerous in his old age and ought therefore to be shipped off to America, or what else, nobody can tell. And it is this ignorance that makes me thrill with horror.

Ladies (Englishwomen especially) are only too enchanted to find or invent any pretext for rushing for a few hours out of town, and having the conventional walk, ride, or drive for an afternoon in the country. An excellent habit just now prevails of dressing simply for these occasions. The dress is not intended to be in any way vulgar, but the skirt is to be the substance of the skirt, the bodice to be the bust, and the waist to be the waist.

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Amongst juvenile amusements a very pretty performance was given the other day in Park Lane, where Mr. George Parkins assembled a large party of guests to see the play "Macbeth" acted entirely by children. The oldest performer was only nineteen years of age, whilst the youngest had only completed her sixth year. Such precious talent is not to be despised, and the result was cheering. Shakespeare's speeches and wise saws pronounced by such childish voices was like a new sound of music.

Lord Huntly has been for some days on his way home. The circumstances under which Lord Huntly was induced to leave England were, I am informed, of very extraordinary nature, and such as, if they are made public, will cause very considerable astonishment.

The season at St. Leonards has been a very good one, and among the more distinguished visitors who have been staying there during the winter are Mr. Thomas King, as successful in the betting as he once was in the prize ring; and Mr. Fitzwarren Chichester.

A marriage, to be shortly, is much talked of between a young and beautiful widow, and the eldest son and heir to a northern baron, who has just purchased one of the finest houses in modern Belgravia. *Vanity Fair*.

FASHIONABLE NEWS.

The Prince and Princess of Wales will, according to the *Hastings and St. Leonard's Chronicle*, visit St. Leonards in June to open a new Convalescent Home.

Prince de Croix has arrived at Claridge's Hotel from Welton.

The Duke and Duchess of Abercorn left Hampden House on Friday afternoon for Bowood Park, Wilts, to spend some days with the Marquis and Marchioness of Lansdowne.

The Duke and Duchess of Marlborough have left Thomas's Hotel for Blenheim Palace.

The Marquis and Marchioness of Lansdowne left town for Bowood, Wilts, after the marriage of the Earl of Winterton and Lady George Hamilton.

The Earl and Countess of Leitrim and family have left Portman-square for Shanklin till after Easter.

Lady Charlotte Osborne has left Thomas's Hotel for the Continent.

Sir Samuel and Lady Wilson have left Claridge's Hotel for Hughenden Manor, High Wycombe, Bucks.

The marriage of Mr. Lancelot Fletcher, son of the late Sir Henry Fletcher, Bart., and Miss Emily Wade, daughter of the Rev. Canon Wade, rector of St. Anne's, Soho, is arranged to take place on April 18.

THE CONVICT LAMSON.

The solicitor for the convict Lamson was engaged on Friday in drafting the memorial to the Home Office for a reduction of the condemned man Lamson. Several persons were in communication with him respecting the case, and a good many matters which were not known at the time of the trial will be adduced in order to endeavour to induce the Home Secretary to recommend the prisoner to the exercise of the royal clemency.

Communications from distinguished men will also be appended to the petition, and the paper will be submitted to counsel and forwarded in the course of a few days to the authorities. The friends of Dr. Lamson complain that a number of misstatements regarding him have been recently circulated.

With regard to the use of morphine by the convict he is represented as being a hypochondriac, and it is asserted that he has adopted it during his confinement in the Royal Turkish war in 1877, and two years before Hobart. It will be claimed that he used the drug to such an extent that his mind was latterly really unable to distinguish right from wrong.

Mrs. Lamson drove on Friday to Wandsworth Gaol, accompanied by a lady friend, and had a long interview with her husband. Both husband and wife were deeply affected, and their interview was of a most painful nature.

Mrs. Lamson will pay further visits during the course of this and next week to see her husband. In the course of the interview Dr. Lamson informed him of what was being done to obtain a reprieve. The convict expressed himself as being greatly satisfied with what was being done, and said he would leave the matter entirely in the hands of his friends.

He had no wish to interfere in any way with the preparation of the necessary documents.

Among the first questions asked by the prisoner, after the formal greeting was over, was his wife and father were, and whether they were hearing up under the terrible trial. He thought his position would be too much for them to come and see him, but he had little hope, and whilst he was not cast down he was at the same time by no means buoyed up.

For himself he said he had little hope, but for his family he feared the effect his sentence would have on them all. As to his health he said he had lost both his teeth and his health.

He had slept soundly for the first time for several years. He no longer missed the absence of morphine, and his appetite had also improved.

Lamson adds that he now lives better than he was in his confinement.

He was nearly starved. The officials were kind, and he believed that he might have anything to eat, and that he enjoyed the improvement.

The convict spoke cheerfully, and was fully as depressed as he was when he was first arrested.

The interview lasted about half an hour, and the solicitor promised to call again in a few days.

It is understood that the Governor of the gaol has made the necessary arrangements for the relatives of the prisoner to visit him, and that they will avail themselves of the privilege.

The convict employs a good deal of his time in writing and reading, and he conducts himself with great composure.

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Great Britain.

LONDON, MARCH 19—20, 1882.

THE HERZEGOVINIAN INSURRECTION.

The intelligence with regard to the events in South-Eastern Europe is conflicting, as it comes from a Slavonic or from an Austrian source. The general effect, however, is indisputably in favour of the conclusion that a mighty effort of Austria has succeeded in repressing the rising on the Herzegovinian border.

Although insurgent bands continue to roam about the mountains and Austrian detachments are kept in constant alarm of surprise, the neck of the agitation is broken.

Austria has accomplished this result by a skilful manipulation of extraordinary power.

Without the concentration of forces upon which the Government insisted the movement would have daily gathered strength instead of abating. The Administrations of the Empire and the Kingdom are to be congratulated on the wisdom and determination they have evinced. They are not the less to be condemned for the counsels which rendered their action expedient and necessary. Imprudent as may have been the original policy which led Austria to accept or seek the control of Bosnia and Herzegovina, it does not lie in the mouth of Europe to criticise the decision. Austria, in occupying the territory, undertook a duty which some State had to be selected by Europe to fulfil and no other State could discharge less invidiously. The mistake, for which it can claim no immunity from criticism, is in its forgetfulness of a primary condition of the problem it had to solve. Bosnia and Herzegovina had been placed in its hands on account of their invertebrate anarchy and incompetence to understand the principles of a regulated commonwealth. The business of their new governor was to teach them the rudiments. Gradually and forbearing the difficult process ought to have been tried of exhibiting the advantages of settled order rather than its terrors. On the contrary, the country has been treated as if it was at a stage of political intelligence which would have made Austrian intervention gratuitous and superfluous. In other words, Austrian local administration has been Austrian. No Power has done more for Europe than the Austrian Empire. For the common welfare, or what it sincerely thought the common welfare, it has, time after time, undergone the greatest dangers and suffered extreme evils. In the Austrian nature there is nothing unkindly and nothing narrowly selfish. Its single vice is that it will insist upon doing good to others after its own fashion, and not after theirs. Austrian military authorities believed, not altogether unreasonably, that the population of the occupied lands was bound to contribute in person to its own military defence. Exaction of a contribution, whether strictly or not in the bond contracted at Berlin, was the most triting of burdens in the shape it took. Equal service with the troops of the Monarchy might be regarded as an honour. Vienna could not comprehend that the gentlest form of obligation to share in public burdens must appear as intolerable oppression to a people which has for centuries enjoyed no opportunity of associating State demands with State benefits.—*Times*.

THE JUDGES AND THE ASCOT PRIZE FIGHT.

Messrs. Coney and Co. may rejoice exceedingly at the ultimate failure of the proceedings against them. They are clearly entitled to belief in their contention that their presence at the Ascot fight was entirely innocent and accidental; that they had neither act nor part in the "distressing exhibition," and that the crowd was so dense that they could not get away. These interesting spectators of a conflict in which they were not interested may be congratulated on their deliverance; but, at the same time, it seems pretty clear that, should another "little mill" ever "come off" in the open air, in the vicinity of Ascot or elsewhere, it will be exceedingly difficult, in the face of the decision of Saturday, to distinguish between the innocent and the guilty beholders of the affray. A man charged with being an accomplice in an assault merely because he had witnessed it might put in twenty pleas which might be held valid in his exonerations. He might declare that he was short-sighted, and could not see whether the men were fighting with boxing-gloves or with their naked fists; or that there was a taller man before him, and he could not witness the fight; or that he turned his head aside, or shut his eyes and would not see it. He might urge that he endeavoured to get away, but was impeded by spectators less innocent than he; or that he was an open-air preacher and wished to exhort the persons present against pugilism; or that he had approached the ring only for the purpose of ascertaining whether his son or some other kinsman or friend in whom he took an interest was present, and of persuading the misguided youth to abandon forth with the revolting theme of profligacy and violence. Again, unless it could be clearly shown that the man knew that the fight was about to take place, that he had expressed his intention of going thither, or that he had made a bet on the issue of the combat, or that he had taken a railway or steam-boat ticket for the precise locality where it had been settled that the illegal "as-

sault of arms" should take place, it is difficult to discern how mere presence at a prize-fight, without cheering or exclamations of encouragement from the persons present, and without proven collusion with the principals or seconds in the fight, could be construed into participation in the assault committed. On the other hand, a very small share of common sense and acquaintance with the classes who still continue to patronise the "ring" will unmistakably point to the inference that ninety-nine persons out of a hundred who are present at a prize-fight are voluntary spectators, and are enthusiastically interested in the episodes of the strife between the modern emulators of the fame of Epeus and Euryalus. It has been notorious in and out of "sporting circles" these many months past that fight between Burke and Mitchell was witnessed by a large number of gentl men whose rank and position in society should have taught them better; and that the "noble art of self-defence," although no longer patronised as it was in the palmy days when Lord Byron and Lord Althorp, Gully, "Gentleman" Jackson, and the Game Chicken partook of that memorable dinner at Brickhill, still finds admirers and supporters among a class who, most assuredly, cannot be numbered in the same category with the "roughs," whose blackguardism made honest sparring in public intolerable to the peaceful and reputable section of the community.—*Daily Telegraph*.

PRINCE BISMARCK'S TURKISH POLICY.

The Berlin correspondent of the *Standard* telegraphed on Sunday night:—

The Panslavist organs of Russia have greatly moderated their tone of late since they have become convinced that the *entente cordiale* between Germany and Austria rests on solid a basis to easily disturbed. The greater portion of the German Press, including the most virulent opponents of Prince Bismarck's high policy, pronounce the way in which he has won over Turkey to the German side a masterpiece of diplomacy. It is universally believed here that in the event of an outbreak of hostilities between Russia and Germany, the latter Empire would now have an invaluable ally in Islam. Nor will the Mahometan connection prove less serviceable to Germany in case of a Franco-Russian alliance, inasmuch as it would necessitate the presence of large French forces along the African coast of the Mediterranean. In his foreign policy the *prestige* of the Chancellor continues undiminished.

FASHIONABLE NEWS.

The Prince and Princess of Wales gave a dinner at Marlborough House, on Saturday evening, at which the following were present:—The Princess Louise (Marchioness of Athlone), the Lord Privy Seal (Lord Carlingford), the Lord Steward (Earl Sydenham), and the Countess Sydney, the Lord Chamberlain (the Earl of Kenmare), and the Countess of Kenmare, the Duchess of Bedford, the Marquess and Marchioness of Salisbury, the Earl of Dumfries, the Earl and Countess of Cork, the Earl and Countess of Rosslyn, Lady Archibald Campbell, Viscount Hinchingbrook, the Right Hon. Sir Stafford and Lady Northcote, Sir Nathaniel de Rothschild, General Sir Francis and Lady Seymour, Sir Frederick Leighton, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Baring, Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Hickens, Mr. George Shiel, Lady Sophia Macnamara and Major Arthur Collins (in attendance on the Princess Louise), Colonel and Lady Emily Kingscote, Colonel

On Saturday, the 31st anniversary of the birth of the Princess Louise was celebrated with the customary honours paid to members of the Royal Family. The dress major doing duty with the detachment of Foot Guards, which mounted the Queen's Guard, at St. James's Palace, wore his state dress in honour of the occasion, and the band of the Grenadier Guards played a choice selection of music in the courtyard of the Palace. The band from the Duke of York's School went voluntarily to Kensington Palace and played beneath the Princess's window in the morning. Her Royal Highness has always taken a great and personal interest in the school, and she was much touched by this attention on the part of the boys.

The Princess Mary Adelaide and the Duke of Teck honoured the Earl and Countess of Salwarz on Saturday for Keston.

The Earl and Countess of Roden have left.

The Earl of Airlie, who obtained leave of absence from his regiment in India to attend the funeral of his father, left on the 28th of last week on his return to India to close the 10th Hussars.

ANARCHY IN IRELAND.

The Dublin correspondent of the *Times* writes:—The condition of the country was revealed during the past week in the reports from the Assemblies. The arrests and number of crimes and outrages perpetrated in several districts is beginning to call forth an expression of horror and alarm even from those in which, more recently, it had been represented as a favourable result. Such events as the attempt to burn the life of Mr. Carter and the atrocities committed in parts of Clare and Kerry appear to have given a shock to the strongest nerves and disturbed the calm philosophy with which a class of politicians were accustomed to view the state of Ireland. There is for the present a very remarkable agreement of opinion among all parties as to the general facts, but a very wide difference as to the conclusions to be drawn from them. It is admitted on all hands that the measures taken by the Government for the repression of disorder have not proved so successful as it was expected they would prove, even in districts where temporary success gave promise of permanent improvement. Some persons go so far as to assert that they have absolutely broken down, and others argue that the outrages are the natural result of the exceptional measures employed to prevent them. With the exception in view, they are now ready to admit any amount of violence and anarchy. It is no longer alleged that the accounts of outrages are invented or, at least, exaggerated and that they are scandalous libels upon a peaceful and orderly people who only want to assert their rights, and would recoil from the perpetration of crime. Now the tone of the Press and of popular leaders is changed. A new programme has been issued, a new score arranged, and the several performers play in concert. The theme is coercion, and the whole movement is intended to show that it has entirely broken down as a means of repression, that it has aggravated rather than diminished the evil it was intended to remedy, and that it ought to be abandoned. The policy of retreat and reversal which is now pressed upon the Government has cut away from the Executive, harassed and worried on every side, who, it is assumed by one party or the other, can do nothing right, but are al-

ways committing palpable blunders or criminal acts. The critics, who find it so easy to point out errors and failures, but ignore those efforts when successful, are careful not to say what policy they would substitute for what they denounce as a policy of coercion; but the inference they leave to be drawn from their incessant fault-finding is that the Government should repeat the Coercion Acts, release the suspects, and let the country drift, as it must, into a civil war or the peace which might follow from the absolute transfer of property from those who are still supposed by law to be its owners to those who have possession of it and covet its ownership. Nothing can be more illogical than the process of reasoning by which some advocates of this policy delude themselves and others. It is said that coercion has failed, therefore discord should be increased. The more redoubtably course would be to make the country as defective and endeavoured to improve its efficiency. But it has failed because it has not done all that was expected from it. True there are many shocking crimes, and it is said they have increased; but would they be likely to cease and not rather to increase tenfold if the hand which now even partially restrains the wrongdoer were withdrawn? Have any of the advocates of a general amnesty calmly considered with a knowledge of the country what would be the effect of letting loose upon the country 600 men who are charged with various criminal acts, though for obvious reasons they have not been prosecuted? Would not the whole country be at once ablaze with excitement; would not the wild passions of the populace, which are now kept in check, burst forth with the flush of triumph and the fury of revenge and the last trace of social order be destroyed? Whatever may be thought of coercion in this aspect, it is a policy it would be nothing short of madness in the Government to try such an experiment in the present circumstances of the country.

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NICE - 15, QUAI MASSENA.

Great Britain.

LONDON, MARCH 19-20, 1882.

THE HERZEGOVINIAN INSURRECTION. The intelligence with regard to the events in South-Eastern Europe is conflicting, as it comes from a Slavonic or from an Austrian source. The general effect, however, is indisputably in favour of the conclusion that a mighty effort of Austria has succeeded in repressing the rising on the Herzegovinian border. Although insurgent bands continue to roam about the mountains and Austrian detachments are kept in constant alarm of surprise, the need of the agitation is broken. Austria has accomplished this result by a skilful manifestation of extraordinary power. Without the concentration of forces upon which the Government insisted the movement would have daily gathered strength instead of abating. The Administrations of the Empire and the Kingdom are to be congratulated on the wisdom and determination they have evinced. They are not the less to be condemned for the counsels which rendered their action expedient and necessary. Imprudent as may have been the original policy which led Austria to accept or to insist the control of Bosnia and Herzegovina, it does not lie in the mouth of Europe to criticise the decision. Austria, in occupying the territory, undertook a duty which some State had to be selected by Europe to fulfil and no other State could discharge less invidiously. The mistake, for which it can claim no immunity from criticism, is in its forgetfulness of a primary condition of the problem it had to solve. Bosnia and Herzegovina had been placed in its hands on account of their invertebrate anarchy and incompetence to understand the principles of a regulated commonwealth. The business of their new government was to teach them the rights. Gradually and forbearingly the difficult process ought to have been tried of exhibiting the advantages of settled order rather than its terrors. On the contrary, the country has been treated as if it was at a stage of political intelligence which would have made Austrian intervention gratuitous and superfluous. In other words, Austrian local administration has been a disaster. No Power has done more for Europe than the Austrian Empire. For the common welfare, or what it sincerely thought the common welfare, it has, time after time, undergone the greatest dangers and suffered extreme evils. In the Austrian nature there is nothing unkindly and nothing narrowly selfish. Its single vice is that it will insist upon doing good to others after its own fashion, and not after theirs. Austrian military authorities believed, not altogether unreasonably, that the population of the occupied lands was bound to contribute in person to its own military defence. Exaction of a contribution, whether strictly or not in the bond contracted at Berlin, was the most trifling of burdens in the shape it took. Equal service with the troops of the Monarchy might be regarded as an honour. Vienna could not comprehend that the gentlest form of obligation to share in public burdens must appear as intolerable oppression to a people which has for centuries enjoyed no opportunity of associating State demands with State benefits. - *Times*.

THE JUDGES AND THE ASCOT PRIZE FIGHT.

Messrs. Coney and Co. may rejoice exceedingly at the ultimate failure of the proceedings against them. They are clearly entitled to belief in their contention that their presence at the Ascot fight was entirely innocent and accidental; that they had neither act nor part in the "distracting exhibition," and that the crowd was so dense that they could not get away. These interesting spectators of conflict in which they were not interested may be congratulated on their deliverance; but, at the same time, it seems pretty clear that, should another "little mill" ever "come off" in the open air, in the vicinity of Ascot or elsewhere, it will be exceedingly difficult, in the face of the decision of Saturday, to distinguish between the innocent and the guilty beholders of the affray. A man charged with being an accomplice in an assault merely because he had witnessed it might put in twenty pleas which might be held valid in his exonerations. He might declare that he was short-sighted, and could not see whether the men were fighting with boxing-gloves or with their naked fists; or that there was a taller man before him, and he could not witness the fight; or that he turned his head aside, or shut his eyes and would not see it. He might urge that he endeavoured to get away, but was impeded by spectators less innocent than he; or that he was an open-air preacher and wished to exhort the persons present against pugilism; or that he had approached the ring only for the purpose of ascertaining whether his son or some other kinsman or friend in whom he took an interest was present, and of persuading the misguided youth to abandon forthwith the revolting scene of profligacy and violence. Again, unless it could be clearly shown that the man knew that the fight was about to take place, that he had expressed his intention of going thither, or that he had made a bet on the issue of the combat, he might have had a railway or steamboat ticket for the precise locality where it had been settled that the illegal "as-

sault of arms" should take place, it is difficult to discern how mere presence at a prize-fight, without cheering or exclamations of encouragement from the persons present, and without proven collusion with the principals or seconds in the fight, could be construed into participation in the assault committed. On the other hand, a very small share of common sense and acquaintance with the classes who still continue to patronise the "ring" will unmistakably point to the inference that ninety-nine persons out of a hundred who are present at a prize-fight are voluntary spectators, and are entirely interested in the episodes of the strife between the modern emulators of the fame of Epeus and Euryalus. It has been notorious in and out of "sporting circles" these many months past that the fight between Burke and Mitchell was witnessed by a large number of gentlemen whose rank and position in society should have taught them better; and that the "noble art of self-defence" although no longer patronised as it was in the palmy days when Lord Byron and Lord Althorpe, "Gulliver," "Gentleman" Jackson, and the Game Chicken partook of that memorable dinner at Brickhill, still finds admirers and supporters among a class who, most assuredly, cannot be numbered in the same category with the "roughs" whose blackguardism made honest sparring in public, intolerable to the peaceable and reputable section of the community. - *Daily Telegraph*.

PRINCE BISMARCK'S TURKISH POLICY.

The Berlin correspondent of the *Standard* telegraphed on Sunday night:

The Panslavist organs of Russia have greatly moderated their tone of late since they have become convinced that the *alliance cordiale* between Germany and Austria has on too solid a basis to be easily disturbed. The greater portion of the German Press, including the most virulent opponents of Prince Bismarck's home policy, pronounce the war in which he has won over Turkey to the German side a masterpiece of diplomacy. It is universally believed here that in the event of an outbreak of hostilities between Russia and Germany, the latter Empire would now have an invaluable ally in Islam. Nor will the Metternich connection prove less serviceable to Germany in case of a Franco-Russian alliance, because it would necessitate the presence of large French forces along the Asiatic coast of the Mediterranean. In his foreign policy the *prestige* of the Chancellor continues undiminished.

FASHIONABLE NEWS.

The Prince and Princess of Wales gave a dinner at Marlborough House, on Saturday evening, at which the following were present: - The Princess Louise (Marchioness of Lorne), the Lord Privy Seal (Lord Carlingford), the Lord Stewart (Earl Sydenham), and the Countess Sydenham, the Lord Chamberlain (the Earl of Kenmare), and the Countess of Kenmare, the Duchess of Bedford, the Marquis and Marchioness of Salisbury, the Earl of Dumnon, the Earl and Countess of Hardwick, the Earl and Countess of Roslyn, Lady Archibald Campbell, Viscount Hinchingbrooke, the Hon. Sir Stafford and Lady Northcote, Sir Nathaniel de Rothschild, General Sir Francis and Lady Seymour, Sir Frederick Leighton, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Baring, Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Hickens, Mr. George Shefford, Lady Sophia Macnamara and Major Arthur Collins (in attendance on the Princess Louise) Colonel and Lady Emily Kingscote, Colonel A. Ellis.

On Saturday, the 34th anniversary of the birth of the Princess Louise was celebrated with the ordinary honours paid to members of the Royal Family. The drum-major doing duty at the detachment of Foot Guards, which mounted the Queen's Guard at St. James's Palace, wore the hand of the Queen of the occasion, and the hand of the Queen of Ireland, the Earl of Airlie, who obtained leave of absence from his regiment in India to order to attend the funeral of his father, left at the close of last week on his return to India to rejoin the 10th Hussars.

ANARCHY IN IRELAND.

The Dublin correspondent of the *Times* writes: - The condition of the country was revealed during the past week in the reports from the Assizes. The arrests and number of crimes and outrages perpetrated in several districts is beginning to call forth an expression of horror and alarm even from quarters in which, until recently, it had been represented in a favourable light. Such outrages as the attempt upon the life of Mr. Carson and the atrocities committed in parts of Ulster and Kerry appear to have given a shock to the strongest nerves and disturbed the calm philosophy with which the class of politicians were accustomed to view the state of Ireland. There is for the present a very remarkable agreement of opinion among all parties as to the general facts, but a very wide difference as to the conclusions to be drawn from them. It is admitted on all hands that the measures taken by the Government for the repression of disorder have not proved so successful as it was expected they would prove, even in districts where temporary success gave promise of permanent improvement. Some persons go so far as to assert that they have absolutely broken down, and others argue that the outrages are the natural result of the exceptional measures employed to prevent them. With this theory in view, they are now ready to admit any amount of violence and anarchy. It is no longer alleged that the outrages of yesterday are invented at least, exaggerated and that they are scandalous libels upon a peaceful and orderly people who only wish to assert their rights, and would recoil from the perpetration of crime. Now the tone of the press and of popular leaders is changed. A new programme has been issued, a new score arranged, and the several performers play in concert. The theme is coercion, and the whole movement is intended to show that it has entirely broken down as a means of repression, that it has aggravated rather than diminished the evil it was intended to remedy, and that it ought to be abandoned. The policy of retreat and reversal which is now pressed upon the Government has but one quality to recommend it - namely, its simplicity. In this respect it is very tempting to an Executive harassed and worried on every side, who, it is assumed by one party or the other, can do nothing right, but are al-

ways committing palpable blunders or criminal acts. The critics who find it easy to point out when successful, but ignore those when unsuccessful, are not sure what policy they would substitute for that which they denounce as a policy of coercion; but the inference they leave to be drawn from their incessant fault-finding is that the Government should repeat the Coercion Acts, release the suspects, and let the country drift, as it must, into a civil war or the peace which might follow from the absolute transfer of property from those who are still supposed by law to be its owners to those who have possession of it and covet its ownership. Nothing can be more illogical than the process of reasoning by which some advocates of this policy conclude that the other is better. It is evident that coercion has failed, therefore discard it altogether. The more reasonable course would be to see where it is defective and endeavour to improve its efficiency. But has it failed because it has not done all that was expected from it? True there are many shocking crimes, and it is said they have increased; but would they be likely to cease and not rather to increase tenfold if the hand which now even partially restrains the wrongdoer were withdrawn? Have any of the advocates of a general amnesty calmly considered with a knowledge of the country what would be the effect of letting loose upon the country 600 men who are charged with various criminal acts, though for obvious reasons they have not been prosecuted? Would not the whole country be at once abuzz with excitement? The wild and the vicious would be the most popular, which are now kept in check, but with the flush of triumph and the fury of revenge and the last trace of social order obliterated? Whatever may be thought of coercion in the abstract as a policy it would be nothing short of madness in the Government to try such an experiment in the present circumstances of the country.

Much sympathy is felt for the family of the late Capt. Disney, Governor of Omagh Gaol, whose death has been the subject of so much comment of a misleading character in the House of Commons. There can be no doubt that he fell a victim to his anxious but imprudent zeal in the discharge of his duty. He thought it necessary to be on the spot when a general appeal was made for the reception of such pests, a class of persons including political and other traitors who are jealousy watched by sympathising friends. It would have been more considerate towards his family on the part of the members of Parliament who made his death a ground of attack upon the Government officials if they had not made it necessary to explain that he acted imprudently in occupying the Governor's house after having received repeated warnings not to do so. He acted from a pious sense of duty, which, unfortunately, led him to disregard the advice he had received, and is to be hoped that the Government will remember this fact and not his imprudence.

The records of the present assizes show the urgent necessity of some honest and determined efforts on the part of the people and their guides to put down violence and crime. Not only do the calendars furnished to the Judges represent only a fractional part of the criminality of the country, but the number of cases in which justice has been vindicated has been comparatively trifling. This fact is not calculated to encourage the Government to abandon the exceptional measures which they have taken to restore order and rely upon the ordinary law.

The *Observer* understands that the attention of the Government has been privately called to a growing evil which threatens further to complicate matters in Ireland. A movement is on foot among the labourers, who, perceiving the advantages secured by farmers as a consequence of the agitation, are forming organisations with a view of forcibly bringing their grievances before the public. This is a matter which, we understand, causes great anxiety to those intimately acquainted with Ireland.

THE RACING SEASON.

The marked decline in the interest attaching to the hurdle-races and steeplechases runs for since the beginning of the year will make the opening of the regular racing season all the more welcome by force of contrast; and as the winter has been a very open one, the probability is that the horses engaged to run at the meetings at Ascot, Epsom, and Newmarket will be in better condition than is generally the case. This in itself tends to make the first two or three weeks of racing more interesting than they sometimes are; and so far as the present season is concerned it seems very probable that the interest will be well sustained throughout the summer. Not for many years, in the judgment of most experienced turfites, have the three-year-olds offered so much promise as those which stand in the front rank for the great races to run at Newmarket and Epsom - though it unfortunately happens that at the present time one or two of the best two-year-old performers are reported to have come very badly through the winter. These reports, may, however, be exaggerated; but nothing positive can be known for the next three weeks, as the first important three-year-old race will not be run for until Easter. In the meantime some ten or twelve fillies of mixed kind or another have to go through the trials which occupy the whole of the week, and at Ascot and Newmarket on Tuesday and Wednesday of next week. The Newmarket Craven Meeting comes, as usual, in Easter week; and we shall then be afforded an opportunity of seeing whether Lord Falmouth's Dutch Oven and Mr. Leo Poldi Rathbone's Nellie have in reality gone the way of so many other promising two-year-olds. They are not the only three-year-olds of note engaged during the Craven week; and there is much talk of a "dark" colt named *Troll*, who belongs to the Duke of Westminster, and who is expected to make his debut during this meeting. After the Newmarket Craven Meeting comes that at Epsom, and the Turf and Suburban Handicap on the 10th of April. The latter is the most interesting of the three-year-olds for this race, which Bend Or won last year with the same heavy weight now assigned to him.

The entries for the principal handicaps to be run between this and the Derby were not so large as usual; but the weights were so skilfully adjusted that the acceptances were in most instances numerous, and there is no reason to anticipate that there will be any falling off in the number of competitors. The most important of these handicaps from a monetary point of view, is that which will be run for at Lincoln on Wednesday; and but for this race the Lincoln fixture would be very deficient in interest. The other races at Lincoln are very commonplace; but the principal handicap is with its £1,000 in added money, too valuable not to attract two or three good horses. It was hoped that *Peregrine* who won the Two Thousand Guineas and ran second for the Derby last year would be in the race, but the weights were not so large as usual; but the weights were so skilfully adjusted that the acceptances were in most instances numerous, and there is no reason to anticipate that there will be any falling off in the number of competitors. The most important of these handicaps from a monetary point of view, is that which will be run for at Lincoln on Wednesday; and but for this race the Lincoln fixture would be very deficient in interest. The other races at Lincoln are very commonplace; but the principal handicap is with its £1,000 in added money, too valuable not to attract two or three good horses. 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THE THREATENED MINISTERIAL CRISIS.

The resumption of the debate on Mr. Gladstone's first resolution touching the new rules of procedure was preceded on Monday by a Ministerial statement with regard to the course of public business in Parliament. Mr. Gladstone announced that it would be impossible to take the Budget before Easter. He suggested a doubt on this point some time ago, and a doubt in these matters is too easily transformed into a certainty. It will be unnecessary, therefore, to suspend the debate on procedure before the holidays, which are to begin on the 4th of April, the Tuesday in Passion Week. The public accounts are made up to the 31st of March, the end of the financial year, and this, according to the Prime Minister's calculation, compels the postponement of the Budget till after the recess. The time that remains, therefore, at the disposal of the Government during the next fortnight will be devoted to the consideration of Mr. Gladstone's resolutions, or rather to the first of them. It is scarcely to be expected that the House will get beyond, if indeed it be able to get through, the debate on the *closure* proposals before Easter. If Lord Hartington's speech yesterday is to be taken as showing the spirit in which the Government desire to conduct this business, we cannot entertain any sanguine hope of rapid progress. Mr. Raikes resumed the debate with a pungent and vivacious criticism upon the discrepancies between the Prime Minister's resolution and his utterances when in Opposition. He examined the arguments in favour of the Ministerial scheme, with incidental and pointed reference, not only to Mr. Gladstone, but to Mr. Chamberlain, Mr. Goschen, and Lord Hartington. Effective, however, as his speech undoubtedly was, it was open, in some degree, to Lord Hartington's remark—in the nature, it must be observed, of a *tu quoque*—that the late Chairman of Committees had abandoned the advantages of his disciplined impartiality and his practical experience and had interposed in debate as an ordinary partisan. Still, Mr. Raikes, if he condescended to make a party speech, made a very telling one, the effect of which may be measured by the degree in which it ruffled the usually serene temper of Lord Hartington. The heat thus contributed to the discussion soon subsided, and towards the end of the sitting some thoughtful and temperate speeches were delivered by Mr. Fowler, Mr. Bryce, Sir John Lubbock, and others. Sir Richard Cross replied in a closely reasoned argument to the Prime Minister, but though he referred to some of Lord Hartington's remarks, he did not take up the gage of party battle the latter had flung down. The manœuvres of a Ministerial crisis is, no doubt, grave; but there are political interests which ought to be more precious to public-spirited men than the fate of a Cabinet or even the temporary fortunes of a party. We are convinced that if members of the House of Commons have the courage to follow their own reason and conscience they will find that the Ministry are not ready to throw up office merely because the *closure* is to be weighted with conditions like those exacted under the rules of urgency last year. It is alleged that the rules of urgency were applied to a different state of things from that in which the *closure* would be usually resorted to; but, as Mr. Raikes pointed out, the difference is on the side of making the latter less rigorous than the former. Lord Hartington's personal repugnance to the *closure* by a majority including the main body of both parties appears to be rooted in the memories of his own experience as a leader of Opposition. He objects, indeed, to giving power divorced from responsibility to an Opposition by requiring their assent to closing debate; but this objection, if of any validity, would condemn the power informally exercised, as Mr. Gladstone lately reminded the House, by the consent of both parties. Sir John Lubbock warned his political associate that the time would come when their new weapon would be used against themselves, and it is important for every section of the Liberal party, for Radicals as well as Whigs, to consider what their attitude would be if they had to face Conservative Majority armed with the power of *closure*. It is very well for Lord Hartington—perhaps with a too lively remembrance of the Army Bill debates and of Mr. Chamberlain's repudiation of his "late leader"—to declare that he would rather have no share of responsibility than all and would leave the majority, if they abused their strength, to be taught the lesson of experience. No doubt, there is a Nemesis which follows the abuse of authority, and it is well that powerful Ministries and large majorities should bear that truth in mind. But we do not submit to despotism or to anarchy because those evils engender their own remedies. An abuse of power, like an error in policy, may do irreparable mischief before it brings about a reaction. What would be thought of a proposal that no persons except members of the Church of England should sit on juries, if it were defended as Lord Hartington and others defend the transfer of the power of closing debates from both parties, who, according to Mr. Gladstone, have heretofore "virtually possessed" it, to the dominant party alone? Would Protestant Dissenters and Roman Catholics be satisfied with an assurance that in the atmosphere of free discussion no wrong could be done? It is equally idle to ask Conservatives to trust implicitly to the reasonableness and justice of a Liberal majority, or Liberals to place similar confidence in a Conservative majority, when the question to be decided is whether the discussion of a particular subject has been exhausted or not. The only way in which the *closure* can be made tolerable is to intrust it, as Sir John Lubbock has proposed, to a majority constituted so as to embrace under ordinary conditions the mass of both parties. But no such arrangement would satisfy the impatient spirits which look to accomplish a series of party triumphs by silencing opposition. Mr. Gladstone's description of the moderate and cautious manner in which the rule would be applied is demolished by Lord Hartington's anticipations of the practical achievements to be expected from its operation, even more than by Sir Richard Cross's forcible analysis of the change it would work in the life and structure of the House of Commons.—*Times*.

THE SALE OF POISONS.

Messrs. Allen and Hanbury have addressed to the *Times* a letter dealing with the existing regulations for the sale of poisons. They admit that a chemist when applied to for very potent poisons by unknown persons may and ought to exercise discretion, as was done by an assistant to Messrs. Bell and Co. in the case of Lamson.

But at the same time they apparently wish to convey the impression that this discretionary power is only to come into play in circumstances glaringly suspicious, as, for example, when a *soi-disant* medical man makes repeated demands for dangerous poisons, and admits that they are for internal use. Now, we venture to say that the law, while requiring chemists to supply poisons to a medical man, does not exonerate them from the duty of taking all reasonable precautions to ascertain that the applicant is really what he professes to be. An ordinary customer is supplied with poison only when he is personally known to the chemist, or when a householder certifies to his identity.

Lord DELAWAR moved the second reading of the Railways (Continuous Brakes) Bill, the object of which was to secure that every passenger train should be provided with a brake which was continuous, self-acting and capable of being applied both by engine-driver and guard; instantaneous in case of accident, and capable of being easily attached and removed. The measure also provided that Railway Companies should be responsible for vehicles which did not belong to them, running on their lines, and empowered the Board of Trade to inspect rolling stock.

Lord COLVILLE of Culross urged that legislation on so important a question ought to be undertaken only on the responsibility of the Government. Lord ABERDON gave a qualified support to the Bill, and eventually it was read a second time, on the understanding, suggested by Lord Sudeley on behalf of the Government, that Committee should be postponed until May. Lord BUNY having asked whether it was true that the Military Committee sitting on the Channel Tunnel scheme were prohibited, by the terms of reference, from inquiring whether the construction of the tunnel was or was not admissible from a strategic point of view, Lord MELVILLE more explicitly said that the Committee was of a purely scientific character, and that the questions referred to its consideration were the practicability of closing the tunnel against an enemy, and the means to be employed for that purpose.

Lord SALISBURY, remarking that the question was one that excited a good deal of feeling out of doors, asked whether Parliament would be consulted before a final decision was arrived at, to which Lord Granville replied that it was certainly not intended to preclude Parliament from the consideration of this important subject.

After some further consideration, the subject dropped.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—MONDAY.

The Speaker took the chair shortly before four o'clock.

More than 50 questions were addressed to various members of the Government, but the great majority had no general interest.

In answer to Lord G. HAMILTON, Mr. GLADSTONE said it would be impossible to bring in the Budget before Easter; and subsequently, in answer to Sir S. NORCOTE, he said that the Easter Recess would be from a Morning Sitting on Tuesday, April 4, to the Monday week following.

Mr. GLADSTONE gave notice that after the first of the New Rules of Procedure had been agreed to, he would move that the first seven standing orders should be made standing orders.

The two intervening resolutions he mentioned were amendments to existing standing orders.

THE CLOUTURE.

The Adjourned Debate on the *closure* was resumed by Mr. RAIKES.

Mr. RAIKES, who, in an effective speech, examined in succession the various arguments on which the proposal had been recommended. First, with regard to foreign examples, he pointed out that it did not exist in the Legislatures of Hungary, Sweden and Spain—countries in which Parliamentary institutions distinguished from more legislative chambers were of ancient growth, and in which there had always been a tradition of freedom—and in the important Colonies of New South Wales, Victoria, and Canada, the *closure* was not in use; and he remarked that the circular in answer to which all this discussion was last month before the House was dated just three months after the Government took office, and before the troubles of the Government arose. But only twelve months before this, he reminded the House, the Prime Minister was writing in the *Nineteenth Century* an article, justifying and eulogizing the Ministerial proposals became more serious on account of Mr. Gladstone's claim that they were studiously moderate and his hint that other matters would remain over for future Parliaments, and also because Lord Hartington had placed them on the footing of a party question on which the Government staked its existence. The *closure*, he believed, went beyond the necessities of the case and put a restraint upon the liberties of the House for the sake of a few; and as to the Speaker, he insisted that sooner or later he would interpret the voice of the House majority to be the evident sense of the House. He objected to the *closure* because it would enormously increase the power of the Ministry of the day, and would diminish the independence of the private members, and towards the end of the Session particularly it would be used to stop all inconvenient motions and all discussion of grievances going into Supply. Replying to Lord Hartington, he asked why, if the *closure* was not to be applied by a bare majority, the resolution should not say so, and he pointed out to the gentlemen below the gangway opposite that with the *closure* in operation, the *Balot, Free Trade*, and other such motions never would have been discussed. Professing himself unable to understand why the Prime Minister had not, in forming on a proposal which he knew to be so distasteful to a considerable number of his followers, he predicted that it would not be carried or, if carried over the heads of its opponents, it would be rejected by the constituents.

Mr. BAYCE bore testimony from personal inquiries to the successful working of the closing power in the United States; and Mr. Alderman FOWLER gave a determined opposition to the proposal.

Sir J. LUBBOCK expressed a hope that the Government would gratify some of their followers by promising to reconsider the latter part of their resolution, for while he admitted the necessity of some measure of reform, he foresaw great difficulties from placing the power of the *closure* in the hands of a bare majority. The Speaker, he thought, ought to have some indication by which to interpret the *opposition* of the House, and finally, he contended that the proposal should induce the House to establish the rule, as he asserted that no concession had been shown between this particular remedy and the evil which had to be remedied. It was unreasonable, he thought, that such a proposal should proceed from Mr. Gladstone, who had been in Parliament for 50 years and had consumed more time than any two members before him for the sake of the welfare of the Government arose. But only twelve months before this, he reminded the House, the Prime Minister was writing in the *Nineteenth Century* an article, justifying and eulogizing the Ministerial proposals become more serious on account of Mr. Gladstone's claim that they were studiously moderate and his hint that other matters would remain over for future Parliaments, and also because Lord Hartington had placed them on the footing of a party question on which the Government staked its existence. The *closure*, he believed, went beyond the necessities of the case and put a restraint upon the liberties of the House for the sake of a few; and as to the Speaker, he insisted that sooner or later he would interpret the voice of the House majority to be the evident sense of the House. He objected to the *closure* because it would enormously increase the power of the Ministry of the day, and would diminish the independence of the private members, and towards the end of the Session particularly it would be used to stop all inconvenient motions and all discussion of grievances going into Supply. Replying to Lord Hartington, he asked why, if the *closure* was not to be applied by a bare majority, the resolution should not say so, and he pointed out to the gentlemen below the gangway opposite that with the *closure* in operation, the *Balot, Free Trade*, and other such motions never would have been discussed. Professing himself unable to understand why the Prime Minister had not, in forming on a proposal which he knew to be so distasteful to a considerable number of his followers, he predicted that it would not be carried or, if carried over the heads of its opponents, it would be rejected by the constituents.

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Galignani's Messenger.

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NOTICE.

A four-page Supplement is published with this day's number of the MESSENGER, and will be delivered gratis with each copy of the paper. It contains our American news and an interesting variety of literary extracts.

Great Britain.

LONDON, MARCH 22—23, 1882.

ENGLAND AND FRANCE.

The new French Ambassador, M. Tissot, who has just arrived in London, will be generally welcomed both by his diplomatic colleagues and by English society. While Lord Lyons has remained constant at his post for fifteen years, the swift succession of political changes in France has been accompanied by changes hardly less swift among the diplomatic representatives of the Republic, and during the past eleven years the Embassy at Albert-gate has seen all sorts of occupants, from the Due de Broglie to M. Challemel-Lacour. We trust that M. Tissot will take the prominent position which is generally associated with the idea of an Ambassador, even in these days when the telegraph has robbed the envoy of so much of his diplomatic initiative; and that his tenure of the office may mark, we will not say a revival, but a renewal of cordiality between the two nations. It is useless to deny that these relations have been somewhat less genial of late than those who value the good understanding between France and England have liked to see. The protracted commercial negotiations, of which so much has been heard and talked, have revealed a difference of view too wide for any compromise; and it is the existence of this irreconcileable difference, rather than the failure to agree on certain definite points, that has caused the greatest amount of regret in England. As the Convention merely embodies M. Tirard's Bill, on which we have already expressed our opinions, we need do no more than repeat the hope that its working will do something to convince the French people that economical laws exist, and that their violation brings its own punishment. On this commercial matter there is, indeed, no more to be said. The arrangement is now made, and it must be left to work as it best may. But the political relations between the two countries give more scope for practical reflections, because of the continued existence of certain questions in which they are keenly interested. Here, again, it is impossible to forecast the future without some reference to the past, or to consider the position of England and France in the East without a reference to Dulcigno and the Greek frontier. What happened in those matters is fresh in everybody's recollection, and our own views on the course which France there followed have often been expressed. Whether or not she could plead the uncertainty of her domestic politics as a sufficient excuse for vacillation abroad, the fact remains that France drew this country into a position of great delicacy, and left her there. The Greek frontier question was settled, and Greece released Europe from a painful situation by accepting the half-loaf. But Europe was none the less humiliated by the rejection of her solemn award, and the victory remained with the Sultan. The Turks saw their opportunity, and at last forced Europe, which the action of Franco had deprived of the force that attends unanimity, to withdraw from the position which had been formally taken up at Berlin. This, it need hardly be said, did not strengthen the good understanding between the two Western Powers; and the Tunis expedition went far to destroy it. This is the more unfortunate, because just now it is especially desirable, if the *entente* is to work at all, that it should be as cordial and as well-established as possible. Eastern Europe is excited, and an active party is feverishly striving to bring about political complications that might spread far. They may not succeed, but if they are to fail it must be by means of a determination on the part of the Governments of Europe not to allow popular animosities to overthrow the general peace. In Egypt especially, where England and France are most directly concerned, there is the greatest need of concerted action in the face of an agitation, which is not the less dangerous because it is at present veiled under constitutional forms. It is satisfactory to reflect that here, at least, there has been no difference of opinion between the two Powers, and that the resignation of the French Controleur need not impair the efficiency of the check which they exert on Egyptian affairs. But a thorough union on one point is hardly possible unless there is a general tendency to union on all points, and the joint action of England and France in Egypt would be seriously jeopardized by any want of cordiality between the Governments in respect to matters elsewhere. An efficient Ambassador can do something, even in these days, towards keeping up a good understanding between two Foreign Offices and, indirectly, between two nations. We trust that M. Tissot will succeed in this task as well as many of his predecessors have succeeded.—Times.

THE GOVERNMENT AND THE COERCION ACT.

A rumour, which we hope may be dismissed as incredible, has been current for some days past, to the effect that the Government do not intend to apply to Parliament for a renewal of the Coercion Act now in operation. Coercion, we are told, has broken down in Ireland; therefore its machinery might as well be abandoned. The fallacy of the argument is so self-evident, that it could not impose on any minds which were not already prepared and anxious to be convinced. It is not, we are sure, the condition of Ireland which encourages the idea that the Coercion Act may be discontinued, but the condition of the Cabinet. It is a well-known fact that a section of the Cabinet was only induced, after some pressure and with considerable misgivings, to acquiesce in the Person and Property Protection Act. That measure is shown not to have accomplished its purpose; how, then, is it asked in the Radical newspapers, can those Ministers who reluctantly accepted it in the first instance approve of its renewal now? The reply is obvious. There is scarcely any plea so extravagant, legal or political, which might not claim a sanction upon such grounds as these. It cannot be said of any sort of penal or repressive legislation that it is absolutely and completely

successful. Capital punishment does not stop murder; burglaries are committed, though burglars are punished with penal servitude. Is, therefore, capital punishment to be abolished, or are house-breakers to be allowed to boast that they have successfully defied the "resources of civilization?" The question which Sir Michael Hicks Beach will ask in the House of Commons, and the answer that will be returned to it, ought to furnish a conclusive proof that if the Government seriously entertain the chimerical project attributed to them, that project must be abandoned. This question is based upon the official returns of outrages in Ireland, and the facts which Sir M. Beach will embody in his inquiry show but too plainly that outrages of all sorts are increasing in number. The point of the question lies in the words, "Whether the statement in her Majesty's gracious Speech from the Throne, that 'the condition of Ireland at this time, as compared with that which I described at the beginning of last year, shows signs of improvement,' is still warranted by the facts of the case." To such an interpolation only one reasonable answer is possible, and we shall be surprised if it does not dispose of the rumour that the Person and Property Protection Act will be allowed to lapse. This Act expires on the 30th of September next. It will, therefore, be incumbent on Ministers to demand its renewal from Parliament, at the very latest, on the reassembling of the House after the Whitsuntide recess. The Arms Act has still four years to run, and consequently stands in a different category. It would, of course, be competent for the Government to include what we may call, for the sake of brevity, the Coercion Bill. But the adoption of this course would not improve their position, nor overcome the difficulties they have to encounter.—

LADIES AND THEIR DRESS.

There is open just now in London an exhibition of ladies' garments. The curiosity of men will be aroused in vain by the announcement of this enterprise, for they are rigidly excluded. Nor can they have the gratification of revenge in kind, for who wants to see an exhibition of coats and trousers, and tall hats? There is no mystery, no interest, about men's clothes. They are not unhealthy, nor in no one cares about them. That men care about women's dress, and have a mighty desire to pry into its sacred details, is uncontested. Let any one start a correspondence on the subject of tight-lacing, or high heels, or low-necked dresses, and letters in plenty pour in from members of both sexes, showing, if not any particular originality of theory or evidence, at least a great interest in the subject. It is a curious psychological trait, too, for eleven out of a dozen men met about in society are practically as unable to describe the details of a lady's dress as a native of the South Sea Islands would be. They have all general impressions as to what looked best at the dinner or kettle-drum, but if pressed into giving reasons for the faith that is in them, they can seldom get beyond the statement that the fair in question wore black. The theory that women dress to please men will not stand against the all but universal rule that men admire black and black-and-white toilettes, and yet that most women dress in colours. In these latter days, it is true, the gentlemen who call themselves aesthetic, and who meddle much in matters feminine, approve of a certain, or rather an uncertain, amount of colour, and appear to have introduced into their relations with the fair sex an element approximating somewhat to the "loves of the vegetables." They counsel gowns the colour of a cabbage head in aromatic pain, and select tints apparently from jars of faded-pickles. Perhaps, after all, these amateurs do not adequately represent the male half of the human race, and are more audible from their much speaking than from their vast number. The side of the question considered at the present exhibition is however hygienic and only ornamental in a collateral kind of a way. Be hygienic; be ornamental if you can; but be hygienic is the motto of the promoters of the scheme, who are, in fact, the members of the National Health Society. For the most part it would certainly seem as if the two things would not combine. The struggle to make them meet is positively piteous. Taken as a whole, the spectacle of Mrs. Partington and her mop stopping the Atlantic is a sanguine and cheering one compared to that of the social reformer attempting to stem the tide of human foolishness. We say human to be impartial; but on the present question women have uniformly shown a calm superiority to argument, a lofty power of ignoring facts which fairly gives them the pre-eminence. The present crusade against tight-lacing, of which this dress exhibition is one of the growths, has not brought forward any fact that is new, or any original threat of dire disease. It has all been heard and forgotten over and over again. Unhappily the oval curve of a shapely waist has not been "in" since our grandmothers' days. It was "in" for a brief period after the French Revolution, when Rousseau's teaching brought it and other natural habits into fashion. It did not retain its hold long on feminine fancy, any more than other less sensible attempts to change the fashionable manners of women. It is a pity the mode has not happened to veer even a little since then in a more natural direction. Obstinate as fashion is, nature is worse. All the tight-lacing that has been practised for generations has not laced away the liver, nor succeeded in convincing the lungs that they can operate freely in a space smaller than themselves. Between the two opposing forces women are beginning to have a bad time. Are we to receive it as condemning evidence against our fair American cousins that most doubtful warnings from medical authorities are heard from the water about the state and prospects of the future mothers of the American citizens? We have been used to accept the fragile and delicate appearance of pretty American women as the unavoidable effect of their climate, but their doctors give other reasons, amongst which unhealthy clothing and want of air and exercise are foremost. To be beautiful is one of the first duties of womanhood, but not the first. The first is to be healthy. Brief struggles are made at intervals to combine the two, and we seem to be in the thick of one just now. Strange indeed are the products of imagination, stimulated by philanthropy, and not wholly under the guidance of art. Dresses which were worn in Greece at the time when, as

we may suppose from the sculpture which remains to us, the natural waist was worn, are offered to the British maidens of our own time and manners. The maiden, as she has a perfect right to do, declines to be dictated to as to the fashion of her robe, and prefers a tailor-made short costume to a bath towel. Here she is met by the advocates of the divided dress, who believe they have solved an insoluble problem, and enabled people to dress like men and look like women. There is the germ of a good idea in the divided dress, not yet perhaps fully developed. Even as it now appears on stands at the Dress Exhibition, it seems well adapted for tennis, for walks with the gun, for mountain climbing, and especially for travelling in regions where horses and donkeys must occasionally be used for getting about. It facilitates agility while respecting the scruples of the most retiring ankle. The toes have not been forgotten either. There are stockings exhibited, sanitary stockings, which resemble nothing so much as a nightmare dream of the octopus. Oh, Hygeia, what deeds are done in thy name! It is perhaps in the heat and fervour of reforming zeal that the main object of the dress reformers gets a little crowded out. If the National Health Society or any other society interested in social reform could attain but two objects, the relaxation of stays and the rational shaping of boots, they would have done enough. Those two principal, we might almost say vital, points gained, fancy may well be left, indeed it will always insist on being left, to fashion its own flights. Free and healthy action of the limbs and organs is absolutely needless. For the ornamental portion of attire the whims of women may be left to themselves, especially as they will "gang their ain gait" in spite of all opposition.—

THE EMPEROR WILLIAM.

The Berlin correspondent of the *Times*, telegraphing on Wednesday, says:—It is a curious coincidence that Goethe, the father of German literature, should have died on the birthday of the Emperor William, the founder of German unity. The double event has been duly recognized to-day. Although 85 years ago the Emperor William shows a great degree of vigour and audacity, he went through a manœuvre campaign which would have taxed the energies of the youngest lieutenant in the service and came back to Berlin with the air of a man who had been out for a quiet holiday. The past winter season has been an exceptionally brilliant and, therefore, an exceptionally trying one; but though the Emperor has accepted numerous invitations and given frequent balls and other entertainments himself, he appears none the worse. He still gets up early and goes to bed late. He works hard and in the early part of the day Ministers, generals, and other dignitaries and officials crowd his ante-chambers waiting their turn to report and transact business. In celebration of his 85th birthday the capital city was one waving mass of flags. The streets were thronged, especially all kinds of dashboard about, nothing but full-dress uniforms were seen. The Emperor's health was drunk at every table. The Press of every hue poured forth its devoted offerings in prose and forgot for the moment all about the manifesto of January and the Tobacco Monopoly. Sentries flanked the entrances to all the chief hotels and palaces, denoting the presence of distinguished visitors, including the rulers and Princes of the smaller States—all come to protest their affection and allegiance to their revered kinsmen and Sovereign. Telegrams of congratulation were received from all the Sovereigns of Europe. As usual, the Emperor received the personal congratulations of his own family, and Ministers, headed by Prince Bismarck in full uniform. In the afternoon there was the usual family banquet, and in the evening the White Saloon of the Schloss was thrown open to about 700 guests—the *elite* of the capital, who did not separate till after midnight. Prince Bismarck, according to custom, entertained the whole Diplomatic body in the Congress-hall of the Radziwill Palace. Telegrams from all the chief towns of the Empire announce festivities in honour of the day. The only act of Imperial grace as yet announced, apart from one or two military promotions, is the bestowal of various orders on the Ministers of Public Works, Public Worship, and Agriculture, and on an Under-Secretary of State. Perhaps the most unique feature of the occasion was the reception by the Emperor, yesterday, of a deputation from the Central Conservative Committee, consisting, among others, of Herr Stoerker, Court Councillor and champion Jew-baiter, and of Herr Hertz, a wealthy small-meeting shopkeeper, who during the late general election gave a large sum of money to aid in the Progressives, and either by coincidence or design was shortly afterwards deposed with the Domestic Order of Hohenlohe. Herr Stoerker, acting as spokesman of the deputation, handed to the Emperor, after a few apt introductory words, a most elaborately devised address of congratulation, lauding, among other things, his Majesty's "Message" to Parliament at the beginning of last Session and his manifesto of January. To this the Emperor replied in substance that every year of his life reminded him that the Almighty, at certain seasons, raised up his own instrument. God had entrusted him with the execution of certain acts, and both in civil and military affairs he had never been in want of the proper persons. The times were serious. Who could be safe when an automatic sovereign (the late Czar) and the sovereigns of Prussia? The Emperor's will was to be restored.

Mr. METZ and Mr. CONAN spoke, and Sir J. MCKENNA moved the adjournment of the debate, but not finding a second his motion was carried. A division was then taken and the second reading was negatived by 214 to 35.

PARLIAMENTARY SUMMARY.

The House of Commons was occupied on Wednesday afternoon in a discussion of the University Education (Ireland) Bill.

Mr. CONNER, in moving the second reading, explained that its object was to place all the youth of Ireland, without reference to denomination, on a footing of equality in regard to university education by transferring the building and the revenues of Queen's College to the Royal University.

Mr. O'DOWD, in supporting the Bill, contended at length that the Queen's Colleges were sectarian and that they had altogether failed to effect the purpose for which they were founded.

Mr. FORSTER declined, on the part of the Government, to reopen the University question so soon after the Act passed three years ago.

With regard to the Bill, he objected that it would deprive a large class of opportunity of obtaining a professional education by destroying the Queen's Colleges, which, so far from having failed, were exceeding the number of their students, both Protestant and Catholic.

Mr. SYRAN warmly insisted on the necessity of dealing with the Irish University question from a Roman Catholic point of view, and Colonel COLTHURST, while not entirely approving the Bill, supported the second reading as a protest against the inequalities of the present system and argued that, if some such solution as this were not agreed to, it would be necessary to disendow the Queen's Colleges.

Mr. DALY maintained that, as the Catholic youth would not frequent the Queen's Colleges, the only mode of doing justice was to give to the collegiate institutions of their own.

Mr. DAVIES supported the Queen's Colleges, the destruction of which, he thought, would be a misfortune, but admitted that some deviation from principle might be necessary to satisfy the demands of those who would not attend them.

Mr. T. COLLINS gave a decided assent to the principle of the Bill as a means of doing educational justice to Ireland.

Colonel NOLAN argued in favour of a Roman Catholic college.

Mr. GIBSON reminded the House that the Royal University had only got into working order within the last four months, and its first matriculation had only been held a couple of months ago.

It would be most unwise, therefore, to interfere with it almost before it had got on its legs. The Bill, he said, was faulty in many respects, and among other things it pointed out that the Royal University could make no use of these colleges if it got them, as no residence in a college was necessary for taking degrees in it.

Mr. THOMASSON, though an opponent of denominational education, agreed that while State aid was given to denominational education in this country, the Roman Catholics had a right to ask for it in Ireland.

Mr. PLAYFAIR, while professing his readiness to assist in constructing a system of University education in Ireland which would satisfy the people, objected strongly to a mere destructive Bill such as this.

Protesting against the argument that the Queen's Colleges had failed simply because the number of students passing through the Arts faculty was limited, he pointed out that if Scotland were tried by the same test, University education might well fail to be a failure, and vindicated the value of the professional faculties in poor countries such as Ireland and Scotland.

Another objection he urged against the Bill was the danger of overloading the endowment of the Royal University and thereby encouraging cramping.

Mr. HENRY congratulated the Irish members on the tone of the debate, but warned them not to trust too much to honeyed words.

Mr. MACARTNEY spoke against the Bill, and the Solicitor-General for Ireland repeated the familiar argument by which the Queen's Colleges have been defended in former debates, against the charge of sectarianism, secularism, etc., and contended that no case had been made out for their demolition.

Mr. FOWLER, Mr. CHAPMAN, Mr. MACKIE, Mr. McMILLAN, Mr. CHRISTIE, and Mr. ARMSTRONG, all spoke in support of the Bill.

The House adjourned at 6 o'clock.

FASHIONABLE NEWS.

The Prince and Princess of Wales, attended by Lady Emily Kingscote and Colonel A. Ellis, dined with Earl and Countess Granville at their residence in Carlton House-terrace on Wednesday evening.

The Duke of Edinburgh landed at Penzance on Wednesday afternoon from the despatch boat *Lively* and proceeded to the battery and inspected the Royal Navy Reserve. He then returned to the *Lively*, and left with the Duchess for Falmouth.

The Duke and Duchess of Connaught were at Charing-cross for Paris, en route for the South of France on Wednesday morning, crossing from Folkestone to Boulogne by the special steamer *Albert Victor*.

Princess Louise (Marchioness of Lorne) honoured Lady Moleworth by her company at dinner on Wednesday evening.

The Duke and Duchess of St. Albans have arrived at the St. George's Hotel, Albemarle-street, from Bestwood Lodge, Arnold, Nottingham.

The Duke of Marlborough has been prevented from attending the Irish Land Act Committee in consequence of the illness of his wife, Lady Louisa Spencer.

The Duke of Edinburgh landed at Folkestone on Wednesday morning.

The Marquess and Marchioness of Headfort and Miss Wilson Fatten have left 46, Grace-square, for Headfort House, Kells, Ireland.

Louisa Countess of Seafield has arrived at Craufurd's Hotel, Sackville-street, W., from Grant Lodge, Morayshire.

The illness of the Countess of Gainsborough is in some respects not unlike that which recently affected the Duchess of Connaught at Bagshot Park. It appears that the Countess was confined at Exton House, near Oakham, about three weeks ago. For a fortnight her ladyship progressed favourably, when symptoms of puerperal fever set in. As these rapidly assumed an aspect of considerable gravity, a London physician was summoned.

On his arrival he found the Countess in a most serious state, and advised her removal to a small residence in the village. The necessary preparations for her convalescence and comfort were made, and when the moment arrived for the Countess to be removed she was found to be so prostrate that it was considered impossible for her to leave her chamber. Under these circumstances her ladyship still remains at Exton House. On Wednesday, in reply to inquiries, it was stated that she was still in a most critical condition.

The marriage of the Hon. the Master of Rollo, the eldest son of Lord Rollo, with Miss Mary Hotman, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Beaumont Hotman, took place on Tuesday at St. Michael's Church, Chester-square.

The officiating clergymen were the Rev.

Frederick A. Rollo, Rector of Rushbury, Salop, assisted by the Rev. Canon Fleming, Vicar of York, and Vicar of St. Michael's.

The bridegroom was Miss Frances Hotman and Miss Margaret Hotman, sisters of the bride, the Hon. Agnes C. Rollo and the Hon.

Constance A. Rollo, sisters of the bridegroom. Miss Georgina Hotman and Miss Emily Hotman, cousins of the bride.

There was a numerous attendance of relations and friends at the church and afterwards at the breakfast, at 90, Chester-square.

The newly married couple left at half-past two for Folkestone, en route for the Continent to spend the honeymoon.

occurred between them. Landlord: "Well Mick, when are you going to pay me my rent?" Tenant: "I will to be sure, your honour, when the suspects are let out," and after a slight pause the tenant made the sign of the Cross, repeating in Irish the words, "In nanc an aran augus avick angus a sprid nae amen, which it is, perhaps, unnecessary to say, when translated into English, means, 'May they not be out for the next seven years.'

THE CAMBRIDGE CLASSICAL TRIP.

The following Class List was issued at Cambridge on Thursday morning:—

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Great-Britain.

LONDON, MARCH 25—26, 1882.

THE DEBATE ON THE CLOUTURE.

The Saturday Review commenting on the various speeches made during the debates on the closure, says that the speeches of Lord Hartington and Sir William Harcourt had the merit of placing before the House, as distinctly as could be placed, that the use of the closure was to enable a Liberal Ministry to get through its business in the way it liked. "With Lord Hartington the question of the closure is altogether and necessarily a party question, for the use of the closure is to do something for one party which the other party does not wish to have in its turn done for it. The impartiality of the Speaker is a topic of idle discussion, for the business of the Speaker will be to register the decrees of a Liberal majority. When the Conservatives are in a majority, the functions of the Speaker with regard to the closure will be in abeyance; for, as it is assumed that the Conservatives never wish to do anything, therefore the occasion can never arise when they are not allowed to do something. The use of the closure in Lord Hartington's eyes is not to achieve such a trumpery purpose as that of converting a month's debate into a three weeks' debate. It is to be an engine always applicable and continually used for hurrying on all kinds of business. With the closure Lord Hartington even undertook to put down bourses. The Liberal leaders are to fix the limit of debate day after day, with the one limitation that the editors of provincial newspapers shall not think that the limit has been fixed in an arbitrary and tyrannical way. To the closure in these its new clothes there are numberless objections of a national kind, such as that it would alter the whole character of the House, and alter it for the worse; that it would encourage faction, and that it would give increasing power to faction outside Parliament. But there are objections to it almost as strong from a purely Liberal point of view. The most serious objection of this kind is that the closure could not work as it is intended to work. It would surely stir up from its origin a party spirit which it could not quell. To make the closure triumph would become the object of one party, and to defeat the closure would be the object of the other. In such a contest, those who seriously, persistently, and with an honest persuasion that they were doing right, set themselves to defeat the closure could not fail to win. The only object of the closure is to save time, and the time that could be legitimately spent in driving the Ministry to apply the closure would greatly exceed the time which the closure is supposed to save. And if the closure were always being used, the position of the minority would become very unpleasant. The provincial editors would begin to howl and the autumn gatherings of provincial electors would be singularly lively. The Conservatives are bound to oppose Lord Hartington's kind of closure as much as they can; but as merely a piece of party advantage, there is nothing probably that would suit them better than that the Ministry should get the closure and that it was as Lord Hartington proposes."

The Spectator looks upon Lord Hartington's clear announcement that the present Government must stand or fall by its success or failure in passing the first resolution as the proper logical consequence of his previous position. If it be true that the time of the House of Commons belongs to the House of Commons, in trust for the nation, and not to the individual members who choose to make claims on it; if it be true that a portion of that time, and no insignificant portion, ought to be at the disposal of the Government of the day for the fulfilment of the legislative pledges which it has given to the country; whereas, without the closure and without deciding the closure in the last resort by a simple majority, it is perfectly certain that it cannot fulfil any even of the most urgent of its pledges to the country.

The Economist contends that if whenever the Government believes that a subject has been sufficiently discussed, it must, before it can make that belief effective, take the leader of the Opposition into his confidence, and negotiate for his consent, it will no longer be answerable in the same sense as now for the conduct of public business. The support of the Opposition, if granted, would have, as a rule, to be purchased by concessions which it might be most embarrassing to make. If it were refused, the Government could, with a clear conscience, repudiate liability for the consequences. The principle which lies at the foundation of our parliamentary system—that power and responsibility go together, and that both belong to the party which is for the time being a dominant majority—would be undermined, without any compensating disadvantage.

keep a Monarchy—as they do—and wish it to be an ornamental and outwardly dignified institution—as they do—they must enable Princes close to the Throne to live in the way in which men of their rank in Europe are accustomed to live. They are not servants of the State, but ornaments of the State, maintained in their position lest the Monarchy should incur any of the disrespect which falls on persons and people with incongruous surroundings. It comes, then, to this—that either the Royal House must accumulate wealth for itself, or that the country must grant its Princes adequate annuities. The first solution is perfectly possible. We have only to abolish the marriage law, and permit legacies to the Throne, and it may be said of him what can be said of few great writers that his influence has been wholly good. He has never spoken with an uncertain sound on the great questions of faith, virtue, honour, and manliness. There is nothing morbidly self-conscious or unnaturally sensational in any one of his numerous works. Yet at the same time he holds a conspicuous throne in the hearts and minds of men because of the simple beauty of his sentiments and the majesty of his pure English diction. His honoured name is that of the first great American poet, the first who rose above the horizon of his own country, and shed his beams full-rayed upon England and Europe. Since his earliest attempt at verse many Transatlantic poets have appeared, but even among such men as Whittier and Whitman, and Lowell, Longfellow retains his pre-eminence and his position as the recognised national poet of America.

A complete list of Longfellow's works, in prose as well as verse, would constitute a somewhat lengthy catalogue. Yet the poet does not appear to have begun his serious poetical career at an unusually early age. He was born in the town of Portland in Maine, and was educated at Bowdoin College in Brunswick, from which in 1825 he took his degree of Bachelor of Arts. His father was a legal practitioner, and the young Henry Wadsworth for a short time after leaving his classical studies worked under paternal vision in his father's office. He received a large number of extraordinary letters in regard to his religious belief. He therefore felt it necessary to declare that he was not an atheist, and that he was ready to subscribe both to the Nicene and the Athanasian creeds. With this matter dropped, and Mr. McLean then gave notice that four weeks hence he would move an address praying for the release of all persons now in prison under the Coercion Act. Mr. Healy excited a laugh by intimating that he would oppose the motion, and soon after the motion was made for a recess.

Mr. Ritchie then moved for a Select Committee to inquire into the effects which the tariffs in foreign countries had upon the principal branches of British trade and commerce, and into the possibility of removing by legislation or otherwise any impediment to the fuller development of our commercial industry. In a speech of considerable length, weighty in argument, and elaborate in statistical references, the hon. member presented his motion to the House, ascertaining that we were on the verge of a period of commercial depression, and combatting the doctrine by which we shaped our commercial policy with a special regard to the imports, leaving the exports to take care of themselves. Protectionist views in respect to manufacturing industries he disclaimed, but of the existence of evils that demanded inquiry he was thoroughly convinced. Even the Government, he added, were without confidence in their own principles, a fact that was shown by their efforts to get a treaty with France—a treaty which could be nothing but a bargain, a form of reciprocity. Mr. Cartwright followed in opposition to the motion, as proposed being characterised as nonsensical by Mr. McLean, with the assertion that Mr. Ritchie, though not absolutely hitting at the policy of retaliation, laid himself open to the retort that he showed a profound contempt in the application of his arguments. Mr. Staveley Hill, judicious and temperate, then sustained the discussion in the fair trade vein, being succeeded by Sir John Lubbock, who held that the appointment of a committee would of itself imply a doubt on our part as to the benefits of Free Trade, and that therefore it would have the opposite effect of commanding Free Trade principles to foreign countries. The injurious and limiting effects of foreign tariffs on our own productive industries were next descended upon by Mr. Eckroyd in a most effective speech, in the course of which he also enlarged upon the importance of commercial union between Great Britain and her colonies and dependencies. Mr. Chamberlain then replied on the part of the Government, stating that they could not accede to the appointment of a committee, which would unsettle foreign opinion as to our commercial policy, and be aimed at no definite object, as the facts were already within grasp, and it was the arguments only that called for discussion. "One-sided Free Trade," as it was called, was, he added, the best thing for us, though he believed that universal free trade would be the best for the world at large. The refusal of the Government to give the motion was commented upon by Sir S. Northcote, who also defended himself from charges of inconsistency brought against him in anticipation by Mr. Chamberlain in respect to his opposition to the motion. The failure of the French treaty negotiations in particular had, he said, made a great difference in our position. He was now as firmly convinced of the general principles of Free Trade as he ever was, but he did not think the inquiry would produce any of the dangerous results that the Government apprehended. Their conduct, in fact, seemed to be guided by a belief that Free Trade was either so sacred or so fragile that it could not be looked into, and for his own part, he believed that many points of detail might arise for full investigation. To these views Mr. Gladstone rather energetically replied, reiterating the view that Mr. Chamberlain had expressed as to the mere fact of an inquiry being ordered, being calculated to create a wrong impression both at home and abroad. Mr. O'Donnell having then expressed the belief that an inquiry into the present system of free imports might throw some light on the agricultural difficulty in Ireland, Mr. Newdegate epigrammatically expressed the opinion that the Premier knew perfectly well that the rejection of a treaty by France was the rejection of Free Trade by Europe. Mr. Bidell having also supported the motion for an inquiry, the division was taken, Mr. Ritchie being defeated by 150 against 89.

The House then went into Committee, and on a vote of £3,631,600 on account for the Civil Service Estimates, Lord G. Hamilton moved to reduce the vote by £200,000; the Government, so far as elementary education was concerned, being thereby only allowed sufficient money for a month, in the course of which time opportunity might be given for discussion and explanation of the new Education Code. The motion was resisted by Mr. Mundella, who held that the grant of this money would not affect the possibility of making any alteration or modification of the code, and that that opportunity for debate should be given. Lord G. Hamilton suggested that the amount of the vote might be extended to sufficient for two months if a day were fixed for discussion of the code. Mr. T. Collins strongly supported this suggestion, and Mr. A. O'Connor, Mr. Healy, and other hon. members referred to other portions of the vote in which they were interested. In reply to Mr. W. H. Smith, Lord Hartington was understood to assent to the new Education Code being put down for discussion first in the Civil Service Estimates. A motion to report progress having been made by Mr. A. O'Connor, Mr. Healy, in supporting it, asserted that the Irish members intended to sicken the Government with Ireland, and to discuss Irish affairs in season and out of season. After a further fusillade from the Par-

PARLIAMENTARY SUMMARY.

In the House of Lords on Friday, Lord Campbell proposed that, in future, the sittings of their Lordships for the transaction of public business should commence at four o'clock instead of five. Lord Middleton seconded the motion; and Earl Granville gave his assent to it, being of opinion that it would be advantageous to meet at an earlier hour. The Lord Chancellor said he had no objection to try the experiment, but suggested that the hour for meeting should be a quarter past four, and that neither the Lord Chancellor nor the Chairman of Committees should be required to attend at the earlier hour. Lord Salisbury said he was not prepared to stand in the way of the proposed change. The motion having been amended as suggested by the Lord Chancellor, was then agreed to, but it was understood that the alteration should not come into operation until after the Easter recess.

In the Commons on Friday Mr. LABOURCHERE presented a petition from Northampton respecting the right of Mr. Bradlaugh to take his seat, and praying to be heard by counsel in support of the petition at the bar of the House. Subsequently, in reply to Mr. Labourchere, the Speaker stated that it would not be in order to move for a new writ for the borough of Northampton, in the room of Mr. Bradlaugh, as a matter of privilege. The object of the hon. member, he said, was obviously not seriously to create a vacancy, but to raise discussion. Thereupon Mr. Pirth gave notice that on an early day he would move that the electors of Northampton should be heard, according to the usage of their petition; and Mr. Labourchere, on his part, also gave notice that on Tuesday he would move that the petition be printed with the name of the elector. Mr. T. Collins then created some little diversion by reminding the House that in consequence of his orthodoxy having been questioned when he himself took the oath, he had received a large number of extraordinary letters in regard to his religious belief. He therefore felt it necessary to declare that he was not an atheist, and that he was ready to subscribe both to the Nicene and the Athanasian creeds. With this matter dropped, and Mr. McLean then gave notice that four weeks hence he would move an address praying for the release of all persons now in prison under the Coercion Act. Mr. Healy excited a laugh by intimating that he would oppose the motion, and soon after the motion was made for a recess.

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Mr. T. Collins strongly supported this suggestion, and Mr. A. O'Connor, Mr. Healy, and other hon. members referred to other portions of the vote in which they were interested. In reply to Mr. W. H. Smith, Lord Hartington was understood to assent to the new Education Code being put down for discussion first in the Civil Service Estimates. A motion to report progress having been made by Mr. A. O'Connor, Mr. Healy, in supporting it, asserted that the Irish members intended to sicken the Government with Ireland, and to discuss Irish affairs in season and out of season. After a further fusillade from the Par-

liament benches, Lord Hartington said that he could hardly believe that any member would resist a vote which was absolutely necessary for the business of the country. Mr. A. O'Connor had asked him to distinguish in the vote as to the items that were absolutely necessary and those that were not; but this he declined to do, being determined to take the vote as a whole. Mr. Justin McCarthy urged that the action of Irish members was perfectly reasonable, as there were several questions that they wished to raise which they regarded as of vital importance; but Mr. Slater-Booth expressed a hope that Lord Hartington would persist in the determination he had come to, not to distinguish between the items of the vote.

It was now past three o'clock, but the Parlementaires continued obstinate. Mr. Healy even suggested that the motion for progress should be withdrawn, and they should proceed with the discussion of the vote in its entirety. In reply to Sir Richard Cross, Lord Hartington assured the committee that opportunity for the discussion of the various points sought to be raised would be given Mr. O'Donnell, and Mr. Barry followed in threatening mood, the latter going so far as to declare that he would put every obstacle in the way to prevent the supply of money, even on account for the present barbarous and cowardly system of government in Ireland. Mr. Biggar next added his tuneful accents to the discussion, requesting the Government to undertake before the *Session* was passed that they would give full opportunity for the discussion of the Irish estimates. Mr. T. D. Sullivan following, gave little hope to the Government that he or his colleagues would in any way retreat from the position that they had taken. Hon. members began to realise that there was a prospect of obstruction being prolonged far into daylight, and a few retired to seek rest in the ante-rooms. The Treasury bench, however, was fully occupied, and amongst the occupants of the front Opposition bench were Mr. W. H. Smith, Sir R. Cross, Mr. Slater-Booth, Mr. Gibson, Sir M. Hicks-Beach, and Mr. Talbot.

Mr. Sexton said that he was not disposed to push the committee to extremes, but he would conscientiously support the members of his party in whatever way, and to whatever extent they opposed the vote, which he regarded as a compendium to misgovernment. Mr. Gibson, not professing to be acquainted with the mysteries of supply, asked whether it would be possible to put any of the items likely to lead to special discussion first amongst the items of supply in their future consideration. Mr. F. Cavendish said that he did not think that the Government would consult the convenience of hon. members themselves by going any further than they had done. Mr. O'Donnell said that under the circumstances the members of the Government had better make up their minds to take the discussion on the items now.

Mr. Metge said that so far as he was able he would oppose the vote, and if they did sit until Tuesday or Wednesday next, Irish members would only be discharging their duty, and the spectacle would be one for Europe and the world to look upon. Lord Hartington offered as a means of meeting the wishes of Irish members that they should take a morning sitting on Tuesday for the report of the Committee.

Mr. A. O'Connor said that it was little else than laughing at the Irish members to make such an offer. They fully appreciated its littleness, but under the circumstances, if his friends were agreeable, he would withdraw his motion.

Mr. M. C. McCarthy said he agreed with his colleague as to the smallness of the proposal, but under the circumstances they would accept it.

Mr. Buggar said that he scarcely thought that the morning sitting would suffice for the whole of the discussion.

The motion to report progress was then withdrawn, as well as the amendment, which had been moved by Lord George Hamilton. The vote was then agreed to, and the Partnership Bills had been read a second time, the House rose at five minutes past four.

COL. BURNABY'S BALLOON JOURNEY.

A meeting of the Balloon Society of Great Britain on Friday morning reference was made to the trip of Colonel Burnaby, and Mr. Le Fevre, the president, said:—"I am exceedingly pleased to be able to state that I have received the following telegrams:—Chateau De Montigny, Normandy.—Colonel Fred Burnaby descended in the balloon 'Eclipse' in a meadow near this place about six o'clock last evening. A number of persons witnessed the arrival of the aeronaut, who had been looked for all along the coast. The Colonel was loudly cheered and received a hearty welcome." (Cheers.) Mr. Le Fevre said he had a second telegram from a friend of his who resides near the spot, and who had the pleasure of conversing with the gallant Colonel, who said the 'Eclipse' behaved splendidly: "Passed over Boulogne at noon and proceeded in a south-south-westerly direction. Threw out more ballast, in order to find a current, if possible, to take him to Paris. Over Le Touquet at a few minutes past two o'clock, still proceeding south-west. Wind changed, and became becalmed in the channel. Again threw out ballast, of which I had taken the precaution to have plenty, and, providentially getting into a favourable current, was carried with expedition to Chateau De Montigny, having been about eight hours in the air.

Colonel Burnaby states that after having drifted out to sea he safely landed near Caen on the Normandy coast at five o'clock on Thursday afternoon. Caen is situated over 100 miles as the crow flies in a south-westerly direction from Tréport (Seine-Inferieure), over which he passed at 2 p.m. It would thus appear that the balloon had throughout been travelling to the south-west with an increased westerly tendency at the conclusion of the voyage. The distance travelled by Colonel Burnaby, supposing he had proceeded in a straight line to Caen, would be about 250 miles, and the rate at which he proceeded would be about 30 miles per hour. Colonel Burnaby has also sent the following message to Mr. Wright, the owner of the balloon:—"Your balloon uninjured. Wind changed mid-channel; afterwards was becalmed over sea; eventually found southerly current at high altitude; descended Chateau De Montigny, Normandy. Voyage difficult, but very amusing." Col. Burnaby arrived in London on Saturday.

At the meeting of the Balloon Society of Great Britain, held on Friday, at the Royal Aquarium, a vote of thanks and congratulation was given to Colonel Burnaby for his "gallant and successful attempt to cross the Channel unaided and unaccompanied." The president, Mr. Le Fevre, in proposing the vote, said that Col. Burnaby had sat with him for several days on the council of the Aeronautical Society and was not a novice at ballooning. He held, what the speaker had always held, that to succeed it was necessary to cross at a high altitude, and the failure of the last attempt was caused by keeping too low, and by being too heavily weighted. Colonel Burnaby's balloon was a light one, made

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Great-Britain.

LONDON, MARCH 28—29, 1882.

MR. GLADSTONE AND MR. SEXTON.

The business of the House of Commons was again obstructed on Tuesday by a gratuitous debate on Irish affairs, for the instruction, or at any rate for the continuance, of which Ministers themselves must be held to be in a great degree responsible. Mr. Sexton, in the exercise of an undoubted, though much-abused right, made some observations which purported to have reference to the vote for the purposes of State in Ireland. All that was relevant in his remarks may be very briefly summed up. He urged that as the division on Mr. Marriott's amendment to the *Closure* Resolution is likely to be a close and critical one, as, moreover, the occasion will be a turning-point in the history of Parliament, and certainly will affect very seriously the scope of the activity of the Irish party, it was only right that the members now detained under the Protection Act should be temporarily released, in order that they might come to Westminster and vote. Of themselves they were by no means anxious to come, but yielding to the solicitation of their friends outside, they had formally applied for permission, and had promised as a condition that they would come simply to record their vote, would rigidly abstain from all other political action, and, having voted, would go back to gaol. To this

appealed Mr. Gladstone's reply, could he have contented himself with saying merely what was necessary, would have been to this effect:—He had not the smallest doubt that the detained members would honourably keep their parole. But any justification that could be alleged for releasing them in order to vote on this critical occasion could be alleged also for releasing them to vote on other critical occasions. If this be granted, what reason could be shown for not releasing them for the full discharge of their Parliamentary duties? And if members of Parliament were to be set free to do their work, why should not other persons be set free to do theirs? The concession asked for was refused, in fact, because it was inconsistent with the principle of the Coercion Act, and to grant it would embarrass Government gravely in dealing with other applications. There is excellent sense in this, and we can only regret that Mr. Gladstone weakened the effect of his reply by going into a good deal of wholly extraneous matter.

One of the justifications of the *Closure*—one of the hopes, that is to say, cherished by some of its more ardent apologists—is that it will be "drawn"—and Mr. Forster seems occasionally to go out of his way for chances of being heckled. Yesterday, for instance, Mr. Gladstone appeared to be almost disappointed that the members of the Party to which Mr. Sexton belongs had not arraigned the general conduct of the Government; and in his reply to the taunts of that gentleman he treated the House, one would be tempted to suspect, to a good deal of the matter which he had prepared as an answer to the contemplated attack. The truth is that Mr. Sexton, thinking mainly of the manufacture of grievances for use out of doors, and of stimulating passion with any cry, however hollow, had anticipated Mr. Gladstone's rejoinder by declaring that the motive which would determine Government to reject the appeal was simply and solely the wish to lessen the adverse votes in the *Closure* division by three. To the old charge that the Coercion Acts were "wrong in themselves, and had been obtained under false pretences, he added the comparatively new one that they are now being worked for Party ends. This subtle insinuation of Mr. Sexton had the desired effect. Mr. Gladstone's expansive energy was roused. He contrived to repeat once more his conviction that the division on the question of the Lords' inquiry into the working of the Land Act was one of "unapproachable" gravity; and, solemnly declaring that he would not enlarge the field of debate, he made it practically impossible by suggesting that the Land League members had deliberately excited the instincts of barbarism which now show themselves in the gloomy catalogue of Irish outrages. The charge was probably a just one, but it did not tend to shorten debate on the question really under consideration. It was, in fact, the prelude to a general discussion—Mr. Cowen and his Irish friends throwing the responsibility for outrages on the authors of the Coercion Acts, and the friends of Government throwing it on the signatories of the No-rent Manifesto. Thus passed, and thus will pass again, we fear—whether *Closure* becomes the rule of Parliament or not—in irritating, profitless contention several valuable hours which might have been given to the proper consideration of practical measures. There is no sign that the House was weary of the wrangle. It was exciting, as scenes of heated recrimination must always be. It was attractive in a sense, for the subject is familiar enough to be intelligible, and yet is susceptible of infinite variety in the treatment. Monotonous as is the inventive of Irish members often is, their best efforts

to be offensive have a certain fascination. In fact, the grosser the waste of time and the more distressing the character of the utterances of Irish members, the greater is the attraction of an Irish debate. To prevent such painful incidents as that on which we have been commenting we must look to the reserve, the self-control, the common sense of the responsible Leaders of the House. On the Ministerial benches on Tuesday these qualities were sadly lacking, and in an atmosphere of *Closure* they are less likely than ever to develop themselves.—*Standard*.

THE PRIZE FIGHT IN A CHAPEL.

Since Nino stole a pyx English blackguardism has seldom distinguished itself so remarkably as in the late fight in a chapel, which was the subject of a magisterial investigation at Bow-street on Tuesday. Perhaps it may be the success of ruffians in assaulting the members of the Salvation Army which suggested the idea of getting up a so-called "glove-fight" in a building which, whether formally consecrated or not, is yet inseparably connected with the rites and ceremonies of Christianity. Magistrates have regarded the beating of the Salvation people much as Gallo regarded the affair when Sosthenes was beaten before the judgment-seat. We do not assert that Gallo was on the bench at the time; probably he was not; but it is certain that he "cared for none of these things." In various places the magistrates have cared very little when the Salvation Army was assaulted by more or less organised roughs, and when the members of the Army showed their pacific disposition by refusing to "fight with beasts." Reflecting on these things the illogical mind of the rough may have detected some connection between religion and downright blows. To follow this train of reasoning, and determine to "bring off" a fight inside a chapel, was a mere example of what philosophers call the "practical syllogism." As a rule prize-fights, natural or disguised, are fought in some remote out-of-the-way place. You get "the office" and a ticket from any sporting publican or instructor in the noble art of self-defence, or causal "Corinthian" with whom you may have the honour to be acquainted. Then, after rising very early, or (which is preferable, sitting up all night in bad company, a matutinal start is made. Perhaps a voyage is made to some marshy spot down the river, or the amateurs travel by land to some forsaken and out-of-the-way little station. Then the ropes are pitched, and a round or two is fought between the Peckham Rye Sack and Somebody's Novice. The fight is not usually very resolute in these degenerate days, and fears may be entertained that both the Sack and the artless Novice have really "sold" the engagement. Many other Generals are said to have done as much; not let us regard too severely the morals of the modern Ring. When a sufficient number of Corinthians and country people have collected to stare, the police generally appear on the scene, and the patrons of the Ring make off as best they can. The Novice is hustled into an empty outhouse, the Peckham Rye Sack, perhaps, gets into a passing steamer, and a crowd of London thieves rob everybody right and left in the confusion. Probably the amateur gets home with a torn coat, a black-eye, a broken watch-chain, empty pockets, and a head ache. At the worst he can congratulate himself that he "has seen life," like Mr. Mallock's curate, who had only "seen life" in the shape of a reveller dead drunk. It is a capital thing to see life, and knocks the priggishness out of a man; but the modern prize-fight generally knocks a good deal more that can worse be spared out of respectable spectators. Obviously there is room for improvement in the arrangements of the modern prize-fight. It is a capital thing to see life, and knocks the priggishness out of a man; but the modern prize-fight generally knocks a good deal more that can worse be spared out of respectable spectators.

The motion was agreed to.

Lords DURHAM and BENTLEY.

THE CHAMBERLAIN.

Lord DURHAM received the attention of the House to an accident that occurred to the South Eastern Railway Company's steamship *Victoria* on Tuesday, the 21st March, off Boulogne, and moved for a copy of the certificate granted to that vessel by the Board of Trade. The noble lord stated that he was a passenger on the occasion in question when the machinery broke down under stress of weather, and the ship became quite helpless, drifting with the wind and tide off Cape Grisnez for an hour and a half before the engine was sufficiently repaired to carry her into Calais. The ship was licensed to carry 300 passengers, and had only two small boats which would only carry eight persons each, and into which he would not have liked to trust himself.

Lord SUDDELEY, in reply, said that the vessel was certified by the Board of Trade to carry 356 passengers. She was bound to carry a jolly-boat capable of receiving 15 passengers, and a lifeboat which would carry 25 persons, and a jolly-boat life-boat. It was the fact that while going at 13 knots she broke down. There was a fresh breeze and a rough sea. She had 120 passengers, and she put into Calais at four o'clock.

In reply to Lord Elphinstone,

Lord SUDDELEY said the steamer was bound to carry one lifeboat, to contain 25 persons, and a jolly-boat, to hold 15. He was unable to say whether the *Victoria* had those boats on board, but he had no reason to believe that she had not.

The motion was agreed to.

Lords DURHAM and BENTLEY.

THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.—TUESDAY.

The Speaker took the chair at two o'clock. The ATTORNEY-GENERAL gave notice that on Thursday he will bring in a bill dealing with the burghs which have been reported as guilty of corrupt practices.

The DUKE OF ALBANY's Establishment Bill was passed through Committee.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

Mr. MAC IVER moved a reduction of the Foreign Office vote by £1,500 in order to express his dissatisfaction with the meagre and misleading answers given by Sir C. Dilke in reference, especially to points connected with commercial negotiations, such as the shipping duties and the *surtaxe d'entrepot*, which he contended, were not borne out by the Blue-book.

Sir H. WOLFE took the opportunity of asking the Government what progress was being made with reforms in European Turkey, and of urging them not to shrink from the initiative which had been assumed by the late Government.

Sir C. DILKE asserted that the replies complained of by Mr. Mac Iver were literally accurate, and were confirmed by the Blue-book.

Mr. O'SHEA also thought that Sir C. Dilke's answers were a little too much in the Tally-endar style; but Mr. Russell, on the other hand, professed himself much impressed by the unflinching accuracy, precision, and courtesy of the Under-Secretary.

The motion was negatived.

MESSRS. PARFELL, DILLON, AND O'KELLY.

Mr. SEXTON reverted to the proposal to permit Messrs. Parfett, Dillon, and O'Kelly to come over on payment of a vote in the expedited division of Thursday, and read a telegram which had been addressed to the Chief Secretary offering to return to prison immediately, and to abstain from any other political action.

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The motion was negatived.

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NOTICE.

A four-page Supplement is published with this day's number of the MESSENGER, and will be delivered gratis with each copy of the paper. It contains our American news and an interesting variety of literary extracts.

Great Britain.

LONDON, MARCH 29-30, 1882.

THE MONTE CARLO QUESTION.

For some time past an unusual amount of discussion has taken place in the French Press on a question which has almost as much interest for ourselves as for our neighbours. This is the great Monte Carlo question—the question whether or not the gambling Casino at Monaco is to be allowed to go on or is to be suppressed by persuasion or force. After long smouldering, this question has at last begun to burn. It has agitated the world of journalism for the past few weeks, and as our readers have lately been informed, it has been under the consideration of Parliamentary committees. These have, it is true, decided against the policy proposed by the advocates of suppression, and have determined that the question shall not even be brought before the Chamber. It is to be left to diplomatic action, and the Prince of Monaco has for the present nothing to fear more swift and decided than the "representations" of various Powers. But, for all that, it is plain that the Casino of Monte Carlo is seriously threatened. In France there is but the faintest shadow of what we in this country call public opinion. It is the rarest thing in the world for Parisians or provincials to interest themselves in the removal of an abuse. The expect the Government to manage all such things for them, and they seldom think of bringing that pressure to bear which in England precedes all reforms, small as well as great. It is a sign of the times that Paris, as well as the Alpes Maritimes, is beginning to ask whether it is not high time that Monte Carlo should be dealt with as a public nuisance, and that the pigmy State should be induced or compelled to deal with the Casino as it would be dealt with if it were situated in the French territory which is but a stone's throw distant. The feeling in the neighbourhood of Monaco has for some time been strong, and has found expression in the formation of a society for the suppression of the Casino, with branches in Paris and London. This society organizes meetings—on the French, and not on the English scale—to interest the Press and the Chamber, and helps to publish arguments and information against the gaming tables. The latest work on the subject is the book of Dr. Prompt (if that very appropriate name really belongs to the author), called "Le Jeu Public et Monaco," in which the writer deals with the whole question, from the historical, the legal, and the moral and social points of view. We have no wish to follow Dr. Prompt through his elaborate discourse on Monégasque history, or to discuss with him the question whether the Grimaldis do or do not derive the title from a grant of the Emperor Otho in the tenth century. For practical purposes it is unnecessary to go back much more than two centuries, to the year 1641, when the Spanish garrison was expelled and the fortress of Monaco was occupied by the French. Under Spanish protection the Prince had enjoyed various lands in the Milanes and in the kingdom of Naples; and it was to compensate him for the loss of these that Louis XIII. invested him with the Duchy of Valentinois and its handsome revenues. For 150 years the Princes of Monaco were rich men, but the Revolution changed their lot. They were rudely stripped both of duchy and principality, and a decree of the Convention annexed Monaco to the Prefecture of the Alpes-Maritimes. Under the Empire their position was amended, and by the Treaty of Paris Monaco was made independent of France and handed over to the protection of the King of Sardinia. Still the Prince continued to exercise practical sovereignty, not only over the infinitesimal territory of Monaco, but over the neighbouring fiefs of Mentone and Roccabruna; and, impoverished as he was, he made these unhappy communities feel the weight of his exactions. The names of Prince Honoré and his son, Florestan I., are still fresh in the memory of the older generation of Mentonians; and still in the mountain valleys the traveller is shown the mills where every peasant was obliged to buy his flour at the Prince's price or to take his olives to be crushed for the Prince's profit. In 1848 Mentone, like the rest of the world, had a revolution, and the reigning House of Monaco found itself stripped once more of its principal territory and of almost all its revenues. It was soon after this, when for some years the Grimaldis had experienced the bitter lot of having to live on almost nothing, that a company of Frenchmen formed the idea of establishing a gaming table at Monaco; and the impudent Prince was glad enough to give the concession. The concern languished from 1856 to 1860, when M. Blanc, the founder of Homburg, offered the astonished and delighted owners the sum of £70,000 for it. Under the skilled management of the new proprietor, the "Société des Bains de Mer," as the gambling company called itself, began to prosper moderately; but it was not till the construction of the railway, in 1868, that it took that leap to the front which has made of this lovely corner of the earth one of the best-known and most visited spots in Europe. The change that has passed over it in fourteen years is astonishing. When the Casino was first opened it stood alone on a cliff, with the sea below it and an olive-covered slope stretching away to Turbia behind. One well-appointed hotel stood ready to house the players; the band performed in an empty hall; the tables were few and not crowded. Now the visitors are counted by hundreds of thousands every year—in 1880 the figure was 33,810; great actresses and opera singers are engaged at enormous prices for their amusement; the fairy-like gardens are thronged; almost every available site is covered with villas or hotels; and land is sold at a hundred francs the square yard. A score of tables are in constant use from morning till midnight, and hundreds of wading persons from all parts of Europe are occupied continually in the fascinating but hopeless struggle against the inevitable law by which the Bank must win. Mean-

while, the magnificent possessions of the late Mme. Blanc, her jewels, her fuses, her works of art, sold in a never-ending stream at the Hôtel Drouot, are the talk of Paris; and her daughter marries into the family of the Bonapartes. Of all the lovely bays upon the exquisite coast the bay of Monaco is the most lovely; and the amphitheatre in which the new town of Monte Carlo is built is perhaps the most sheltered and the warmest that is to be found between Nice and Genoa. Every year the crowds of English and French visitors to that coast are increasing; and it is not mainly for the gambling that they go. The mass of the three hundred thousand visitors to Monte Carlo are merely the visits of curiosity. The visitors would be in the neighbourhood whether the tables were there or not. Vast numbers, too, who are now frightened away by the Casino would go if the gambling were abolished. No serious check, much less any permanent diminution, to the prosperity of Monaco is to be apprehended if the diplomatic action of M. de Freycinet results in an immediate notice to quit to the representatives of the Blanc family, their tables, their wheels of fortune, their cards, and their croupiers. —

SOUTH AFRICAN AFFAIRS.

Telegraphing on Wednesday the Durban correspondent of the *Times* says:—

An important statement was yesterday made by the Cape Ministers in Parliament regarding Basutoland. The Secretary for Native Affairs, the Hon. J. Sauer, drew a bright picture of the condition of the country. He denied that the Basutos were likely to indulge in active resistance. It was more probable that their resistance would be of a passive character. He did not anticipate any treacherous attack. Moreover, treachery being foreign to the nature of the people. Facts rather tended to show that the details would require modification in a select committee. The Bill was then read a second time and ordered to be referred to a select committee.

Mr. CALLEN gave notice of his intention to put a question to the First Lord of the Treasury in reference to certain opinions on the Irish question expressed by Mr. Courtney in his election speeches in East Cornwall.

Mr. GUNNAN moved the second reading of the Agricultural Holdings, Notices of Removal (Scotland) Bill, the object of which, as he explained it, is to require that landlords in Scotland shall give two years' notice (instead of 40 days) as at present to tenants under lease when they intend to bring the tenancy to a termination. He recommended it chiefly on the ground that it would enable tenants under such circumstances to make arrangements with their landlords or to find fresh farms. It was supported by Mr. M'Lagan, Sir H. Maxwell, and many other Scotch members, accepted by the Lord Advocate, and referred to the Committee.

Dr. COOPER next moved the second reading of the Civil Injunctions (Scotland) Bill, which diminishes and in some cases abolishes imprisonment for what are termed in Scotland "alimentary debts." It was in like manner supported by the Scotch members, and the Lord Advocate accepted it on the understanding that its details would require modification in a select committee. The Bill was then read a second time and ordered to be referred to a select committee.

Mr. CHEETHAM moved the second reading of the Commonable Rights Bill, which supplies defects in the Lands Clauses Appropriation Act and the Enclosures Act, by providing a more easy means of appropriating the common lands, and by the compulsory appropriation of commonable rights to such purposes as the improvement of the remaining common land, the purchase of new land, and the acquisition of recreation grounds, etc. After a short discussion it was read a second time.

Mr. BRINTON next moved the second reading of the Burial Fees Bill, which proposes to regulate, equalize, and reduce the fees payable for burials, erection of monuments, etc., on the principle that no payment shall be made where no service is rendered; and he stated his willingness to refer the Bill to a select committee. Its rejection was moved by Mr. J. G. Talbot, seconded by Colonel Maitland, who regarded the Bill as an attempt to interfere with the functions of the clergy, and pointed out that the House had only the day before appointed a select committee to inquire into the whole subject.

Mr. ILLINGWORTH supported the Bill as an assertion of the rights of the people against clerical attempts to curtail them.

Mr. SALT maintained that it was contrary to the ordinary practice to go on with legislation when a committee had been appointed to inquire whether legislation was necessary, and deprecated a reopening of the burials question after the settlement of two years ago.

Mr. O. MORAN supported the second reading on behalf of the Government, urging that the subject required investigation chiefly by the Royal Commission, and that the inequality of these fees, and that the bill would not be referred to the select committee as soon as the day before unless it were first read a second time.

Mr. BEARSDON-HONG insisted that it was contrary to equity and common sense to bias the committee by reading the bill a second time; while Sir W. Harcourt, on the other hand, pointed out that the appointment of a select committee had committed the House to the assertion of a grievance, and that it was the commonest thing in the world to read a bill a second time under such circumstances.

Sir J. Mowbray and Mr. Stuart-Wortley opposed the bill; Mr. L. Stanley supported it, and Mr. T. Collins was speaking against it when its adjournment for adjournment arrived.

The Duke of Albany's Establishment Bill was read a third time and passed.

The House adjourned at ten minutes to six o'clock.

FASHIONABLE NEWS.

The Prince and Princess of Wales visited the studio of Miss Grant, at Albany-street, Regent's-park, on Wednesday to see the bust and medallion of the late Dean of Westminster.

The Prince of Wales presided at Will's Rooms on Wednesday evening at the festival dinner in aid of the funds of the Victoria Hospital for Children, Queen's-road, Chelsea.

The Duke of Edinburgh arrived at Portland on Wednesday in the *Lively* steam-yacht, and proceeding on board the *Hercules*, a royal inspection of the coastguard who had accompanied the vessel.

The Government party say, "We are prepared to undertake the government and defence of the colony itself, but we require proper guarantees or concessions as regards Zululand." At meetings held in Lady'smith and Verulam resolutions to this effect have been carried.

John Dunn is at present in Durban. All is quiet in his district. Colonial feeling regards Cetewayo's proposed visit to England as a most unfortunate mistake. Troops are still leaving the country. There is no Transvaal news.

POLITICAL ITEMS.

(FROM THE "DAILY NEWS.")

Persons of ordinary intelligence who heard, or have read, Mr. Gladstone's speech in the House of Commons on Tuesday afternoon will not need to be assured that it contained no indication, much less any declaration, of a "change of front" in the relations of the Ministry, and the issue of to-night's vote on Mr. Marriott's amendment. As a statement has, with obvious intention, been circulated that the Ministers have altered their views on this matter since Lord Hartington spoke, it may be desirable to state that there is not the slightest foundation for the report.

Sir Henry Wolf proposed to take the opportunity of Mr. Errington's return further to prosecute his inquiry into the nature of that gentleman's mission to Rome.

Mr. Peter Rylands has undertaken to make an appeal to Mr. Richard Power, begging him, in the interest of public business, to withdraw the blocking notice which prevents the Public Accounts Committee being nominated. As was explained a fortnight ago the quarrel between the Land League members and the Treasury is that Lord Frederick Cavendish does not intend again to submit the name of Mr. Parnell as a member of the Committee.

A very numerously attended meeting of members of the House of Commons, I venture, religiously equal, was held in one of the Committee-rooms under the presidency of Mr. H. Richard, M.P., for the purpose of considering the many ecclesiastical Bills now before Parliament, and generally the policy to be future pursued in connection with ecclesiastical questions. After a number of Bills had been considered, and the course to be taken with respect to them discussed, it was resolved that a representation should be made to the Government that opposition would be offered to such measures as the Lord Chancellor's Augmentation of Benefices Act Amendment Bill and Mr. Stanhope's Patronage Bill. It was decided that support should be given to Mr. Leathem's Bill relating to Church patronage. The Cemeteries Bill received the warm support of the meeting. It was further agreed to appoint a standing Committee to secure united Parliamentary action in regard to ecclesiastical questions.

THE POSITION OF NAVAL ENGINEERS.

In Mr. Trevelyan's lucid exposition of the Navy Estimates the less satisfactory part of it was his account of the changes which are taking place in the officer and social rank of naval engineers. The position is perhaps one which the country at large has not troubled itself much about; it is nevertheless one of the very greatest importance to the well-being of the service. The high scientific education which our young engineers now receive renders them undoubtedly better qualified as officers, but at the same time it takes away from them the constant practice essential to the handicraftsmen, and renders them less excellent artificers, which capacity they have been formerly too much employed. It is not only that; with each improvement in their position and their training they have felt more and more that, as officers, they ought not to be required to exercise their mechanical skill in the engine-room, and that the officers in the engine-room are to be relieved of the responsibility of getting the ship into the dockyard, and the result was that he rolled over the heads of the closely packed audience, and thence over the gallery ledge, falling upon the tier of boxes below. Pope received very serious injuries, and was taken to the Queen's Hospital. He is in a critical condition.

SERIOUS ACCIDENT AT A BIRMINGHAM THEATRE.—At the Prince of Wales's Theatre, Birmingham, Mr. Wilson Barrett's company have commenced an engagement in *Proof*. On Monday night there was a large audience, especially in the gallery, which was crowded. Towards the close of the performance Thomas Pope, aged twenty-seven, a cooper, who was at the back of the steep gallery, endeavoured to get a seat, but in the attempt met with obstruction, and the result was that he rolled over the heads of the closely packed audience, and thence over the gallery ledge, falling upon the tier of boxes below. Pope received very serious injuries, and was taken to the Queen's Hospital. He is in a critical condition.

PARLIAMENTARY SUMMARY.

The House of Lords held a formal sitting on Wednesday, when the Royal Assent was given by Commission to the Consolidated Fund (No. 2).

In the House of Commons on Wednesday, Mr. CALLEN gave notice of his intention to put a question to the First Lord of the Treasury in reference to certain opinions on the Irish question expressed by Mr. Courtney in his election speeches in East Cornwall.

Mr. GUNNAN moved the second reading of the Agricultural Holdings, Notices of Removal (Scotland) Bill, the object of which, as he explained it, is to require that landlords in Scotland shall give two years' notice (instead of 40 days) as at present to tenants under lease when they intend to bring the tenancy to a termination. He recommended it chiefly on the ground that it would enable tenants under such circumstances to make arrangements with their landlords or to find fresh farms. It was supported by Mr. M'Lagan, Sir H. Maxwell, and many other Scotch members, accepted by the Lord Advocate, and referred to the Committee.

Dr. COOPER next moved the second reading of the Civil Injunctions (Scotland) Bill, which diminishes and in some cases abolishes

fines of the masts and yards mainly in this—that, being entered as skilled workmen who can on shore high wages, they get high wages on board ship. Men of the necessary quality and character, as they gather experience, are valuable servants of the Crown; ashore they might look forward to becoming foremen of their workshops, or to becoming more notable; affloat they can become first-artificers, with pay rising, after six years' service, to 7s. 6d. a day; which, with lodgings, lights, and provisions all found and a certain portion in the end, compares not disadvantageously with the prospects open to them in private employ. The system of employing these artificers to do the manual work which could not in any sense be considered officers' work has grown up and largely developed itself, each successive Board of Admiralty carrying it to a greater length than their predecessors; so that whereas in 1863 there were not fewer than 1,414 commissioned naval engineers, the number of engineer officers is now fixed at 650—the difference being due to the retirement of officers. "The duties for which officers, with their long and expensive training and commissioned rank, are not needed will be transferred more and more to the class of chief engine-room artificers, who will be increased up to 150, as the existing staff of engineers diminishes; and, if the Admiralty sees fit, the operation may be continued by increasing the chief engine-room artificers and decreasing the engineers, as long as their total number does not exceed 800." It is this most important change in the duties of the engineer officers which renders possible the change also going on in their social position. They have now the education of the Royal Engineers, and are recognized as officers. And this claim the Admiralty approves: not indeed suddenly, but gradually and by degrees.

"In every new ship that is now built the engineers are made for the engineers in the wardroom and gunroom. In existing ships the process of amalgamating the messes is being carried out with all possible rapidity." This, more even than the high pay which is open to them, will win them to the service, and will continually react on the new entries, until our engineer officers become as recognized a part of the naval staff as our commanders and lieutenants themselves.—*Pall Mall Gazette.*

THE MARRIAGE OF PRINCE LEOPOLD.

According to the most recent arrangements for the marriage of Prince Leopold, Duke of Albany, with Princess Helen of Waldeck and Pyrmont, to be celebrated in St. George's Chapel, Windsor Castle, on Thursday, April 27, and the Princess is expected to leave for England on or about the 10th April. There will be eight bridesmaids, and the names of the young ladies selected for the honour are as follows:—Lady Jane Seymour Conyngham, Lady Mary Campbell, Lady Alexandra, Lady Maud Vane, Tempest, Lady Florence Beatrice Anson, Lady Ermyntrude Russell, Lady Eva Sarah Louisa Greville, Lady Anne Catherine Sybil Lindsay, and Lady Florence Mary Boole Wilberham. The Archbishop of Canterbury will perform the ceremony, and the assistant prelates will be the Bishops of London, Oxford, Worcester, and Lichfield. It is expected that the Prince of Wales and the Duke of Connaught will act as the bridegroom's and bride's father respectively, and that the Princess will be accompanied by the Queen. The ceremony will be performed in the honour of the event. Preparations are to commence at St. George's Chapel on Monday next, when the covered ways and State approaches will be begun. The chapel will be closed on the 10th, and the service will be held until a week after the wedding. The Bray and Rutland Chapels will, it is expected, be fitted as retiring rooms, and tiers and seats will be placed on the north and south aisles of the nave to accommodate of spectators. The fine organ will be supplemented by a choral group. The Archbishops and Ministers, and others invited will, as usual, travel from London by special train on the morning of the marriage, and on arriving at the station will be conveyed to the south entrance of St. George's Chapel. The members of the Royal Household who do not take part in the carriage procession will assemble about 11.30. At a quarter to twelve the Prince of Wales, with other members of the Royal Family and his Majesty's Royal guests, will leave the Castle, followed a quarter of an hour later by the Queen. The bridegroom will arrive later, and shortly after half-past twelve the bride and her father and other members of her family with their ladies, attended by a captain's escort of the 2nd Life Guards, will reach St. George's Chapel. The bride will be given away by her father, and at the conclusion of the service the "Hallelujah Chorus" will be sung by the choir, and guns will be fired in the Long Walk; the "Wedding March" being played on the organ as the procession from Windsor Castle to St. George's Chapel will be kept by a detachment of the Scots Guards, and a travelling escort of the 2nd Life Guards will escort the bride and bridegroom as far as Chertsey on their way to Claremont.

THE USE OF MORPHIA.—Dr. Danford Thomas has laid an inquest on the body of Captain Walter Raleigh Gilbert Hamley, 30, son of Major-General Hamley, R.E., at Eastbourne-terrace. The father stated that his son, who was separated from his wife, was a captain in the Lancashire Fliers, and had been a sea-lieutenant at Paddington. His sister received a letter some days since, written in his usual cheerful tone. The witness heard the deceased was dead on Sunday last, and saw his body the next day. He was in comfortable circumstances—J. Hughes, landlady of the house, 18, Portsea-place, said the deceased came to lodges at her house in June. She last saw him alive, and apparently cheerful on Thursday last. The following day he did not leave his bed-room as usual, and she became uneasy about him, and at eight in the evening sent her maid to call him.—Louis Holland, niece of the late witness, said she used to wait upon the deceased. She went to his bed-room to call him about eight on Friday evening, and, receiving no answer, called his mistress. At nine in the morning she thought she heard him call "Hello!" She last saw him alive at nine on Thursday night.—Replying to the coroner, General Hamley said he understood his son was at a concert at a private house in Powis-square on the Thursday evening.—Dr. Rayner, Edgware-road, said he was called in and found the deceased lying in bed on his left side with a book beside him. He was rigid, and might have been dead six or eight hours. He found several snuff-bottles, one of which contained morphine, and another contained an opiate. There was also discovered an instrument for injecting morphine under the skin. Other bottles had contained liniments.—General Hamley said his son some months ago had a painful attack of sciatica, and was in the habit of injecting morphine.—Dr. Rayner, having made a post-mortem examination, said he was of opinion that death must have resulted from the injection of an overdose of morphine.—The coroner remarked that deaths of this description were of frequent occurrence lately.—General Hamley said his son was very impatient of pain, and would do anything to get rid of it for a time.—The jury, after a brief deliberation, returned a verdict to the effect that the deceased met with his death by accidentally taking an overdose of morphine.

AN EXTRAORDINARY CONFLICT.—A local correspondent of the Press writes:—

Some extraordinary proceedings were enacted at Ilfracombe on Wednesday to prevent officers of the Coastguard from passing over their property in the execution of their duty.

It would appear that since the erection of the above-named hotel, the company have permitted the public to use their private road under certain conditions, one of which is the closing of the gates on a particular day every year.

Notice having been given that this course would be adopted by the company, it was decided to

repel the attack of the Coastguard on the 21st of March.

The officers of the Coastguard, however, were